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(54) **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ASSESSING
VEHICLE HANDLING**

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705/7.26; 717/168; 324/200
See application file for complete search history.

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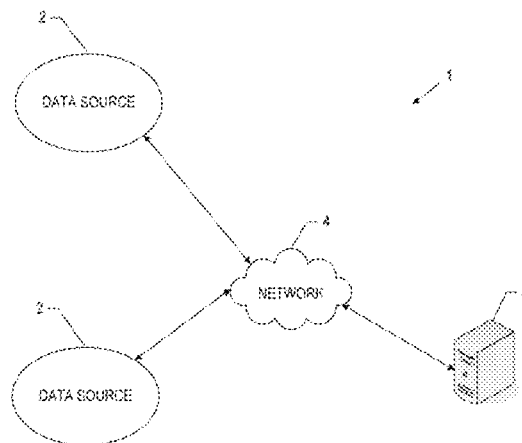
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Various embodiments of the present invention are directed to a fleet management computer system configured for assessing vehicle backing. According to various embodiments, the fleet management computer system is configured to assess operational data associated with one or more vehicles and identify vehicle backing events occurring during a particular time period. In various embodiments, the fleet management computer system is also configured to determine one or more backing characteristics for the identified backing events and generate a graphical display providing backing information indicative of the backing characteristics.

34 Claims, 47 Drawing Sheets



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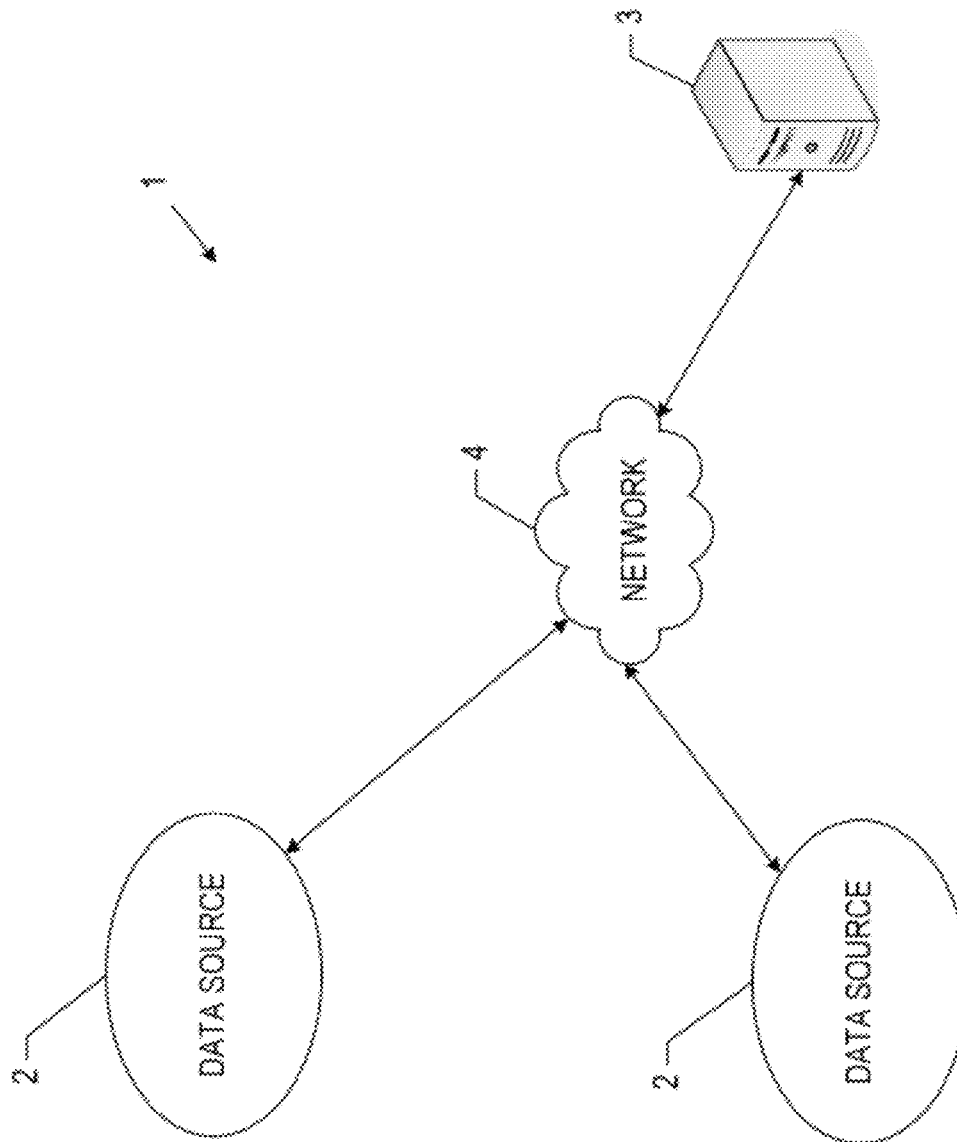


FIG. 1

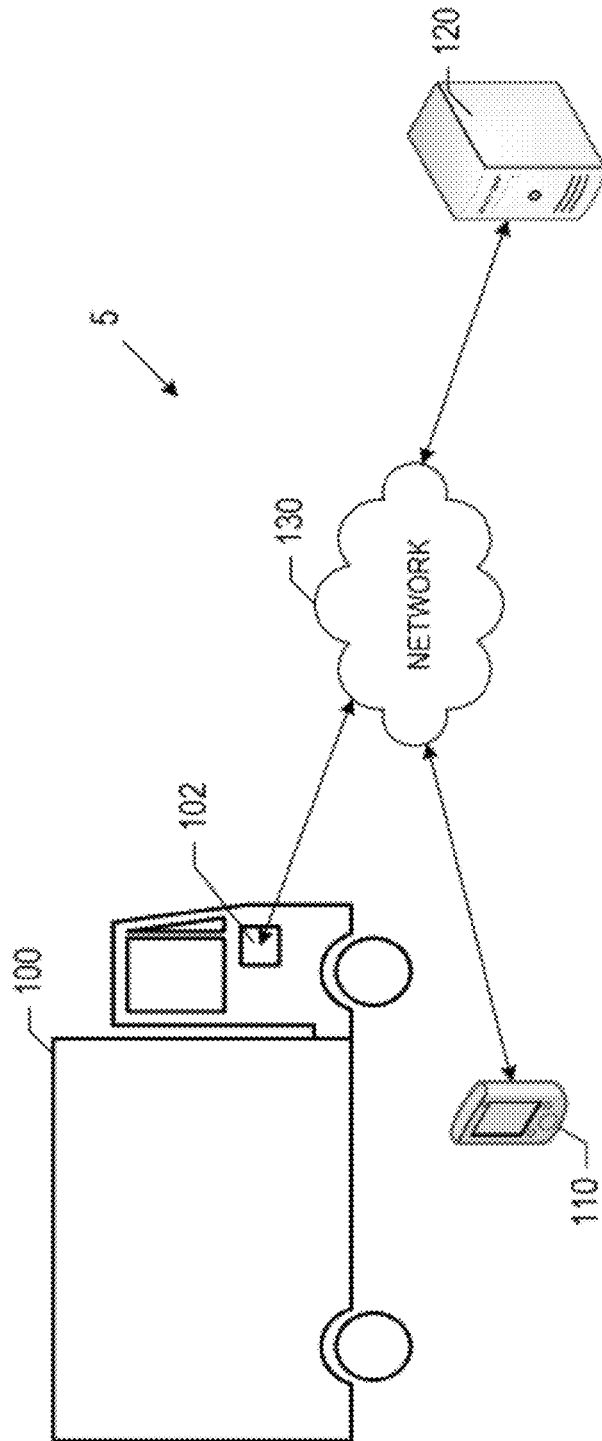


FIG. 2

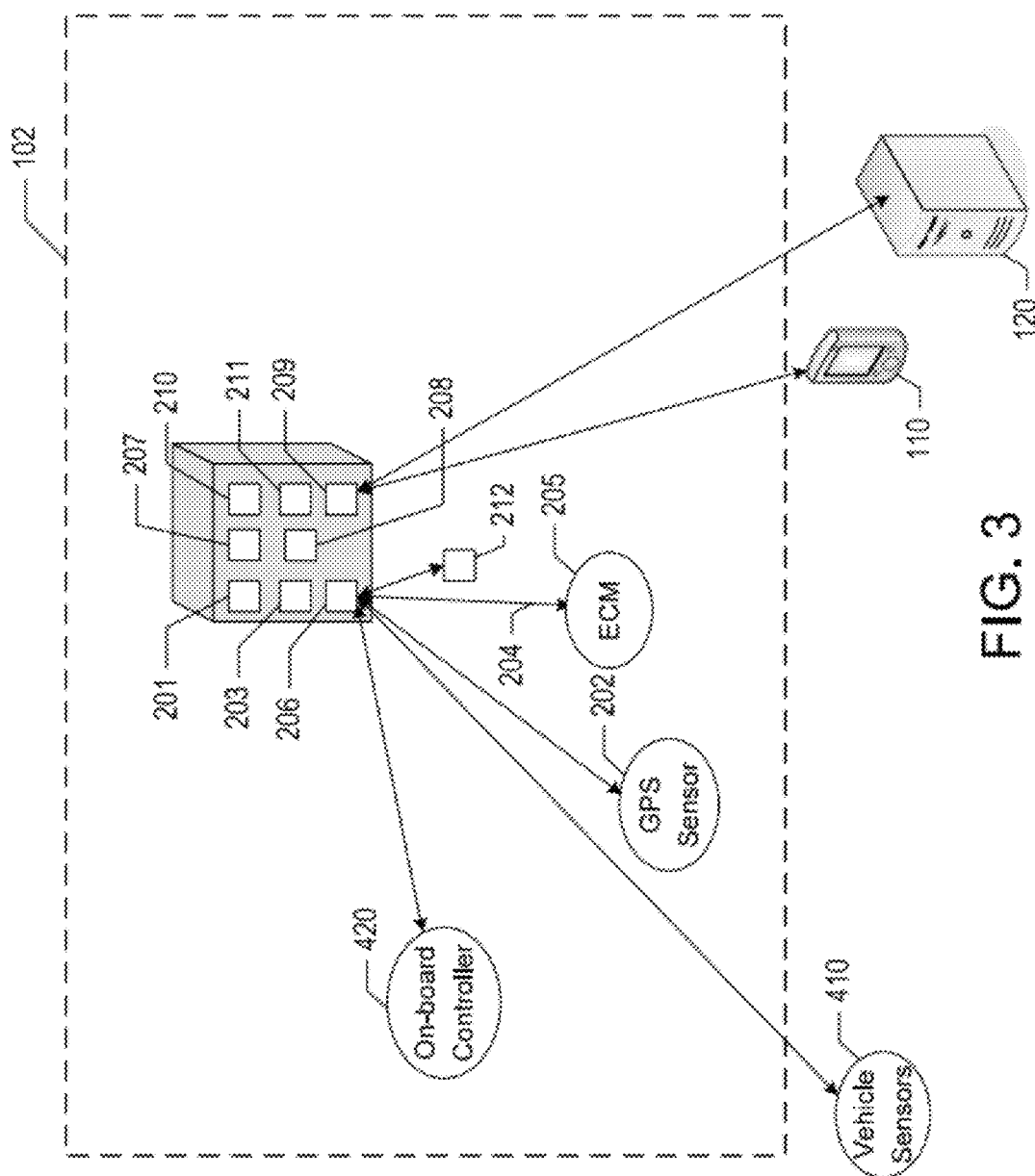


FIG. 3

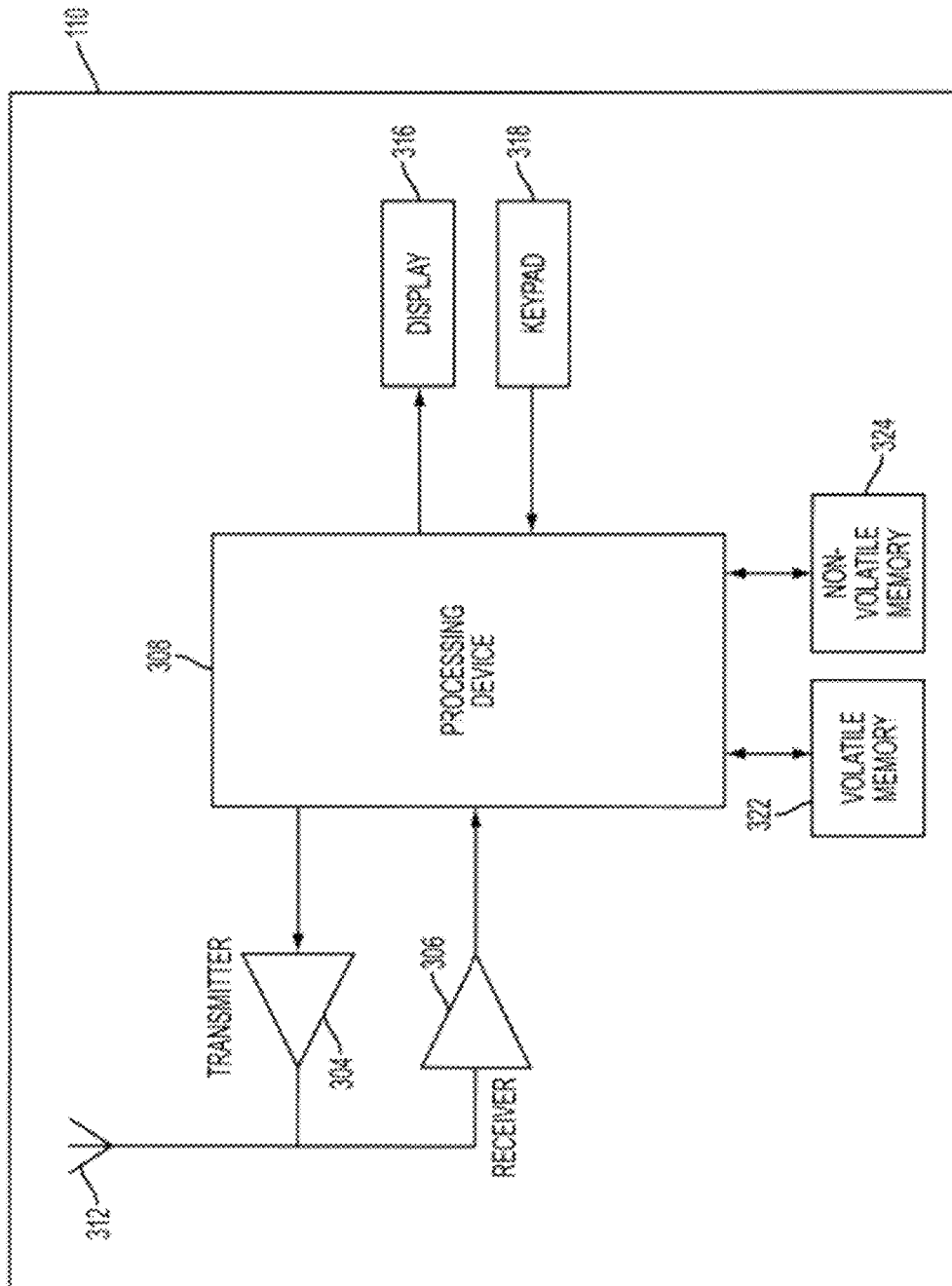


FIG. 4

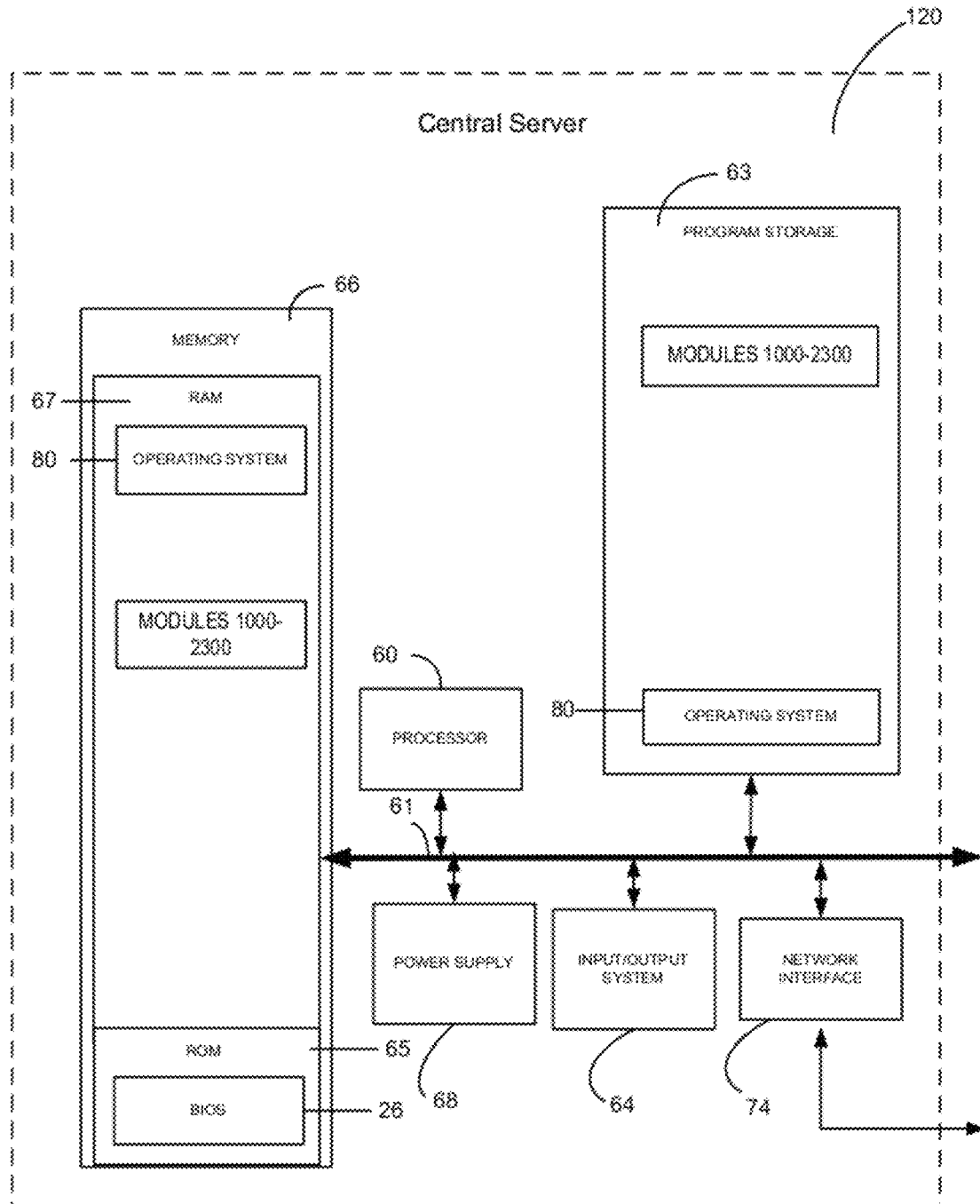


FIG. 5

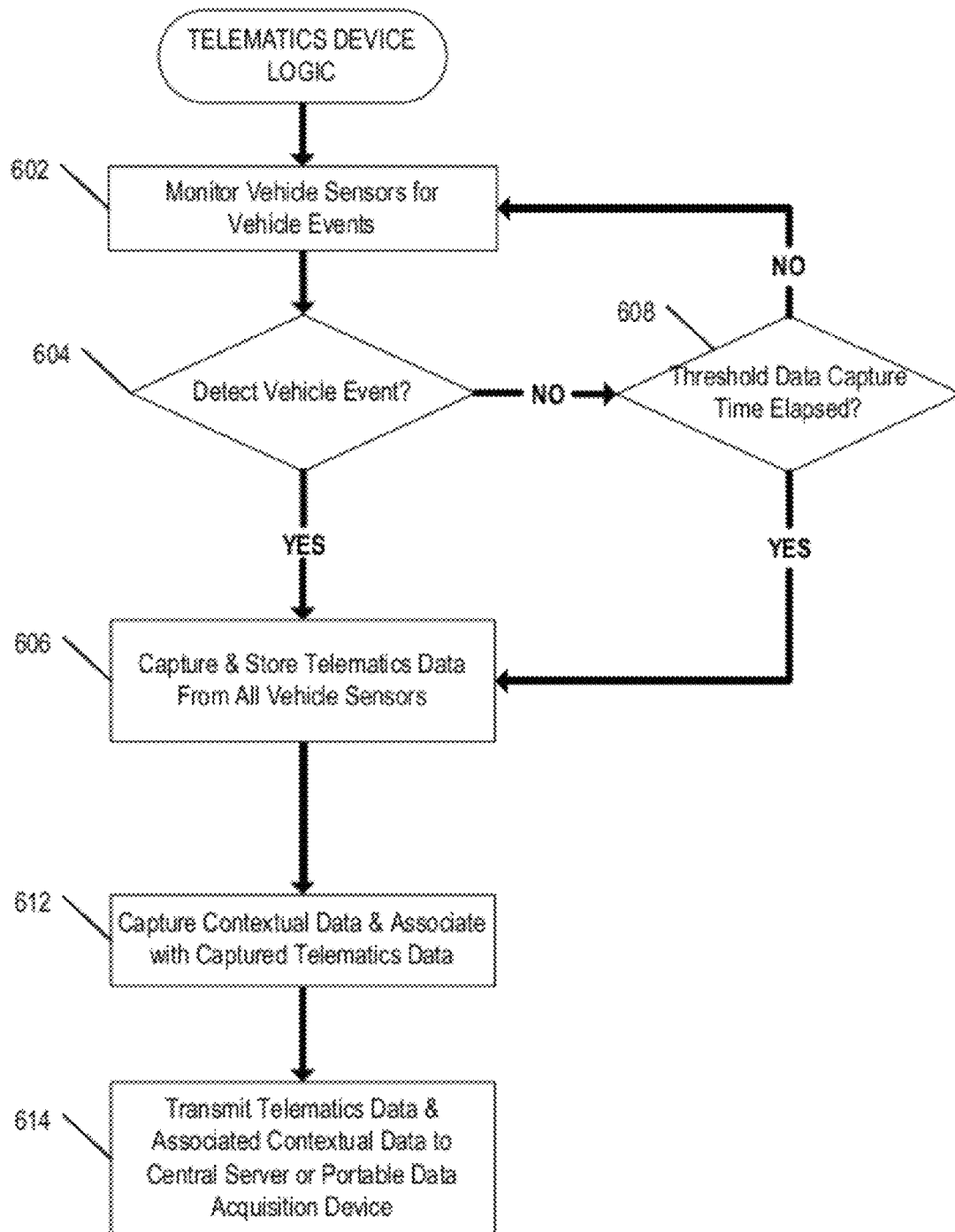


FIG. 6

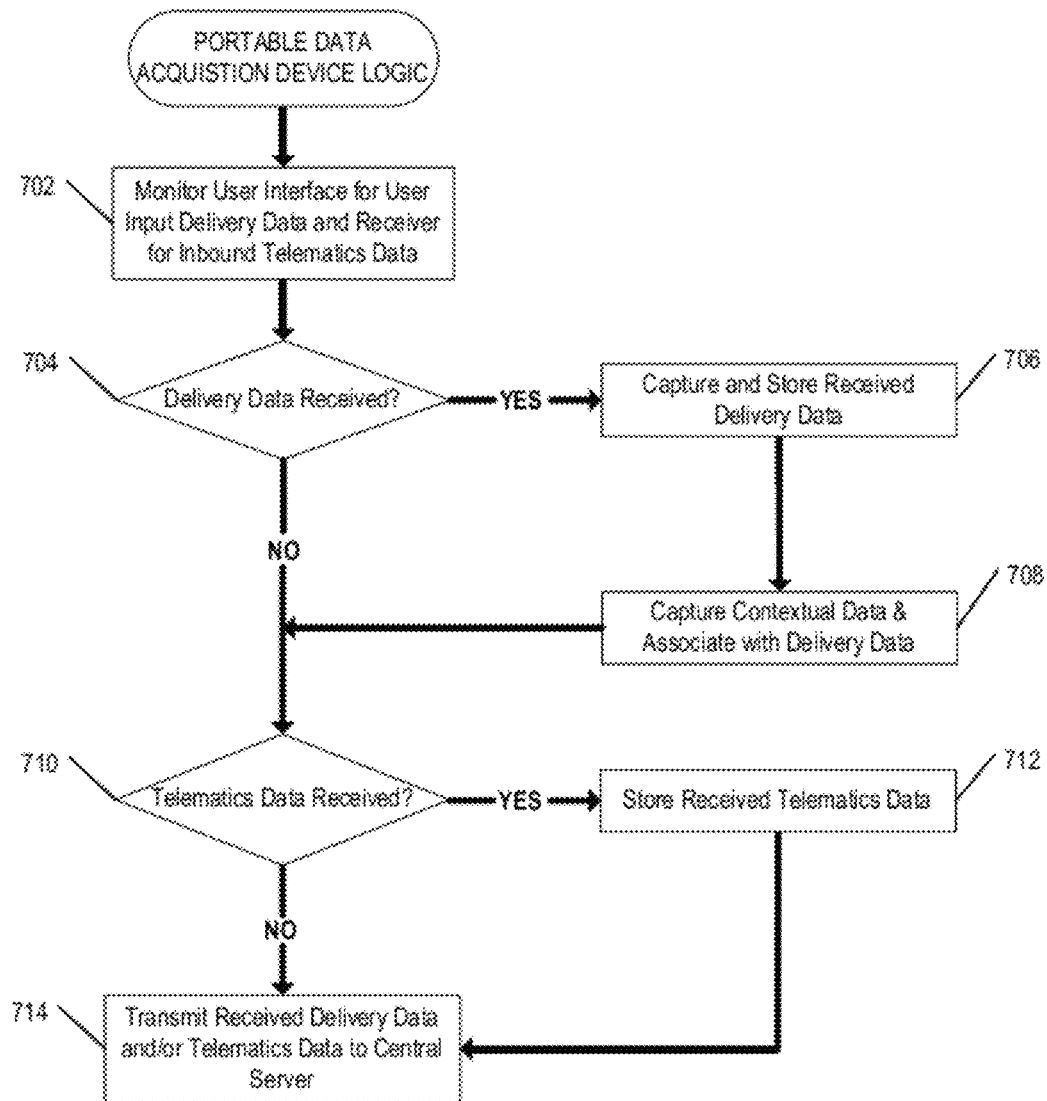


FIG. 7

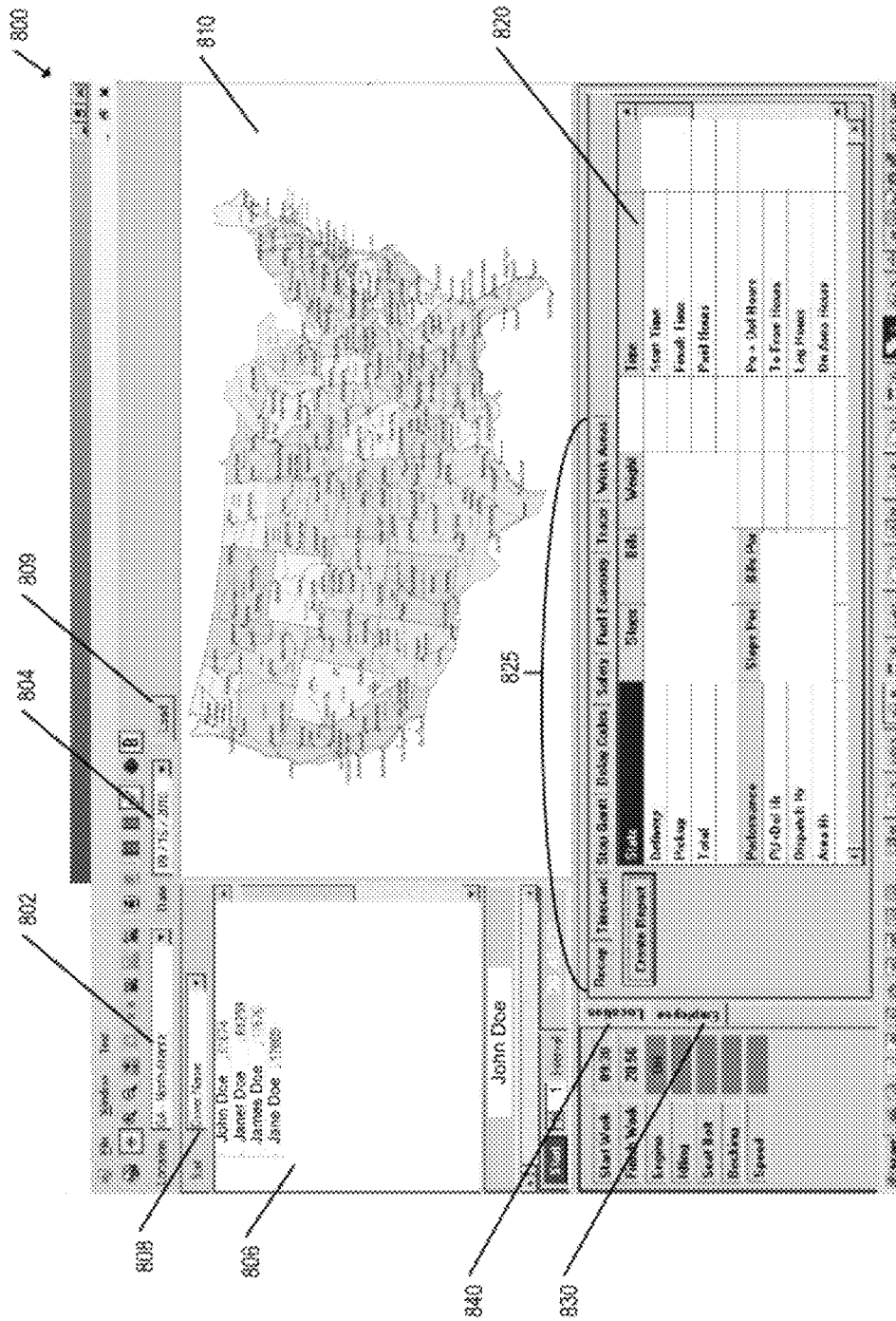


FIG. 8

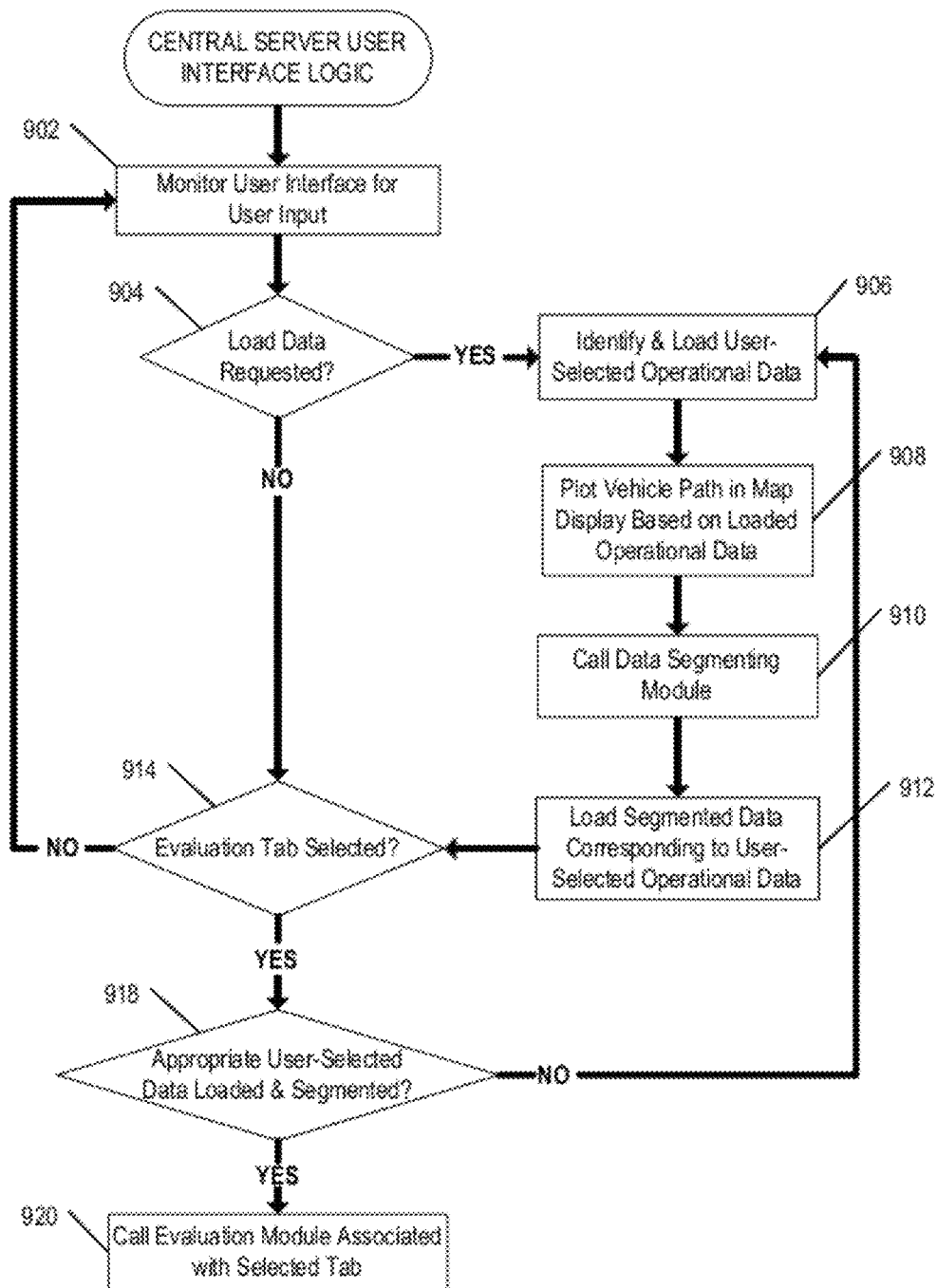


FIG. 9

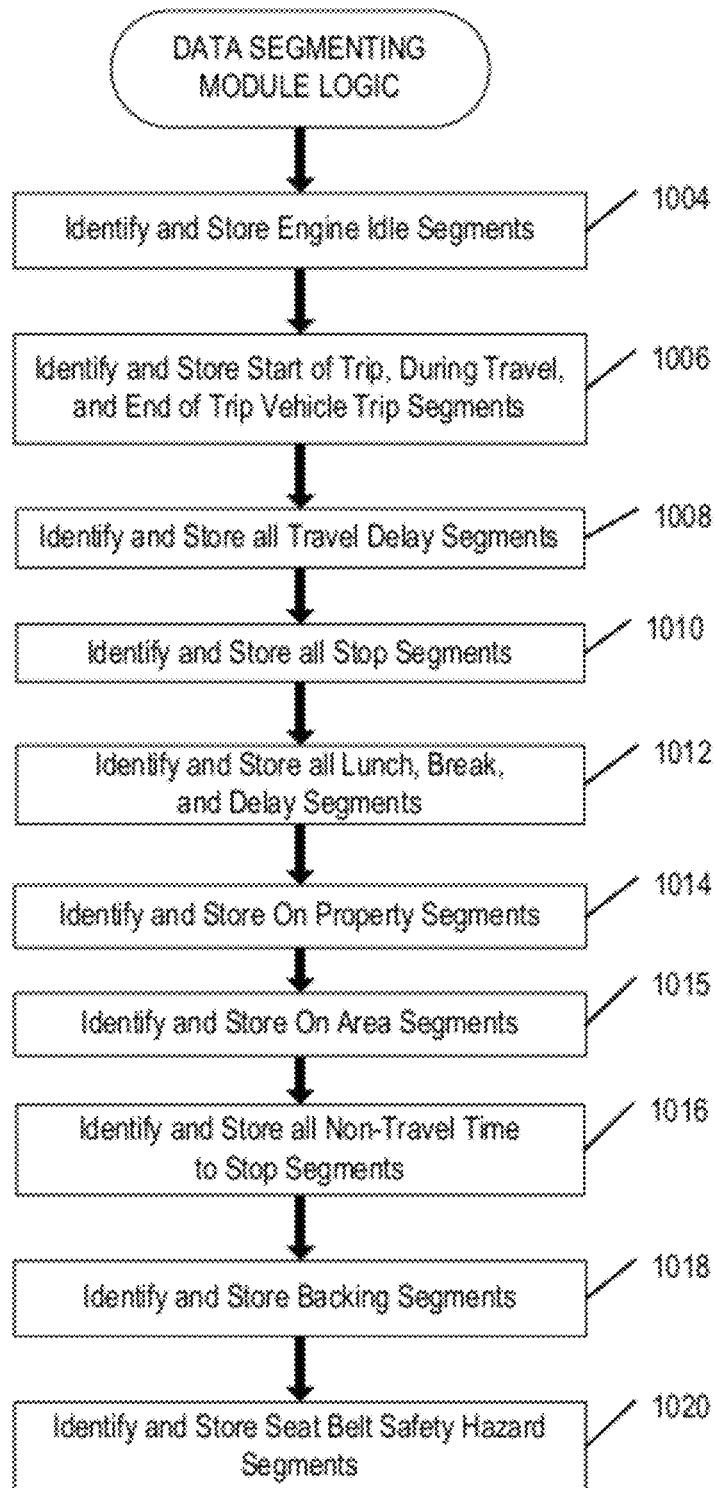


FIG. 10

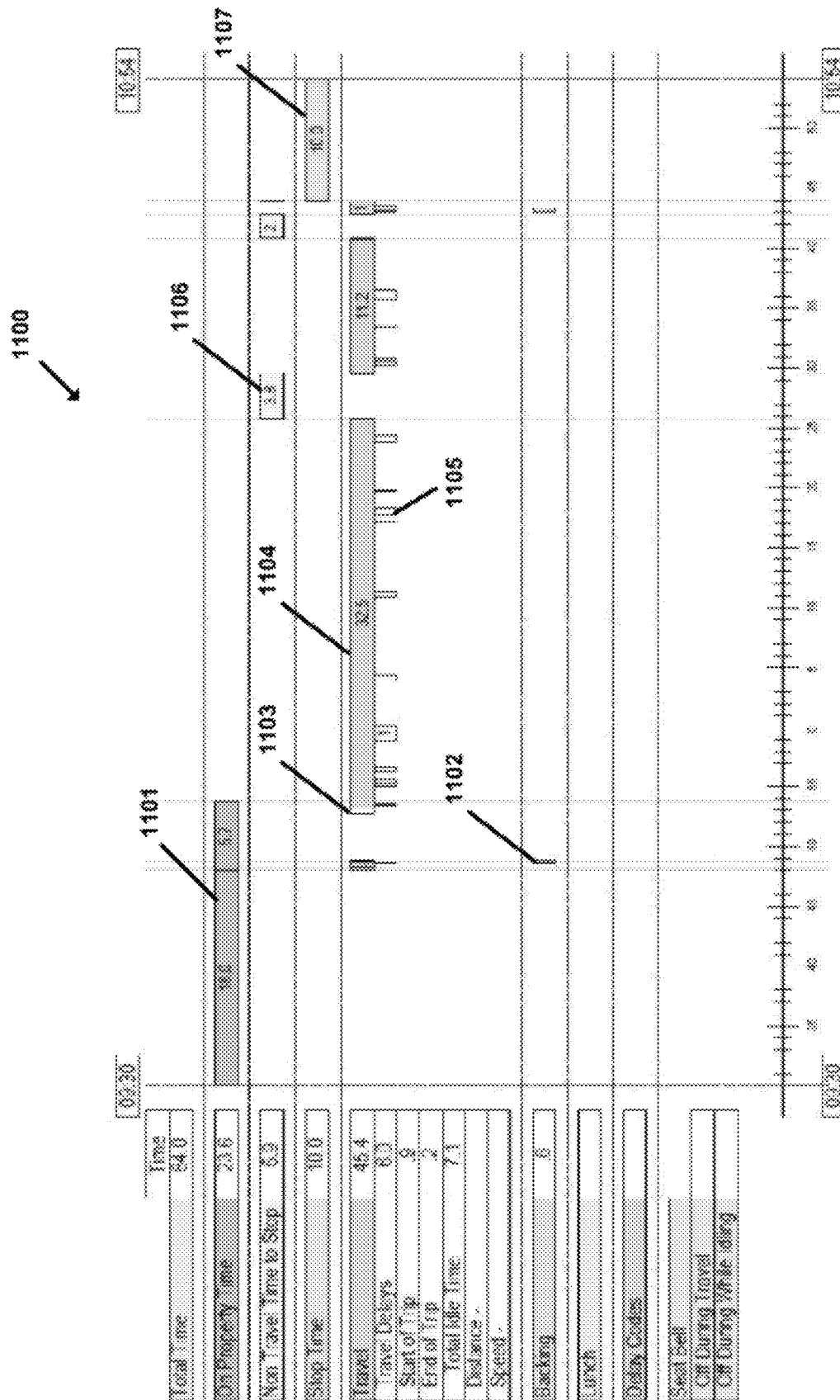


FIG. 11

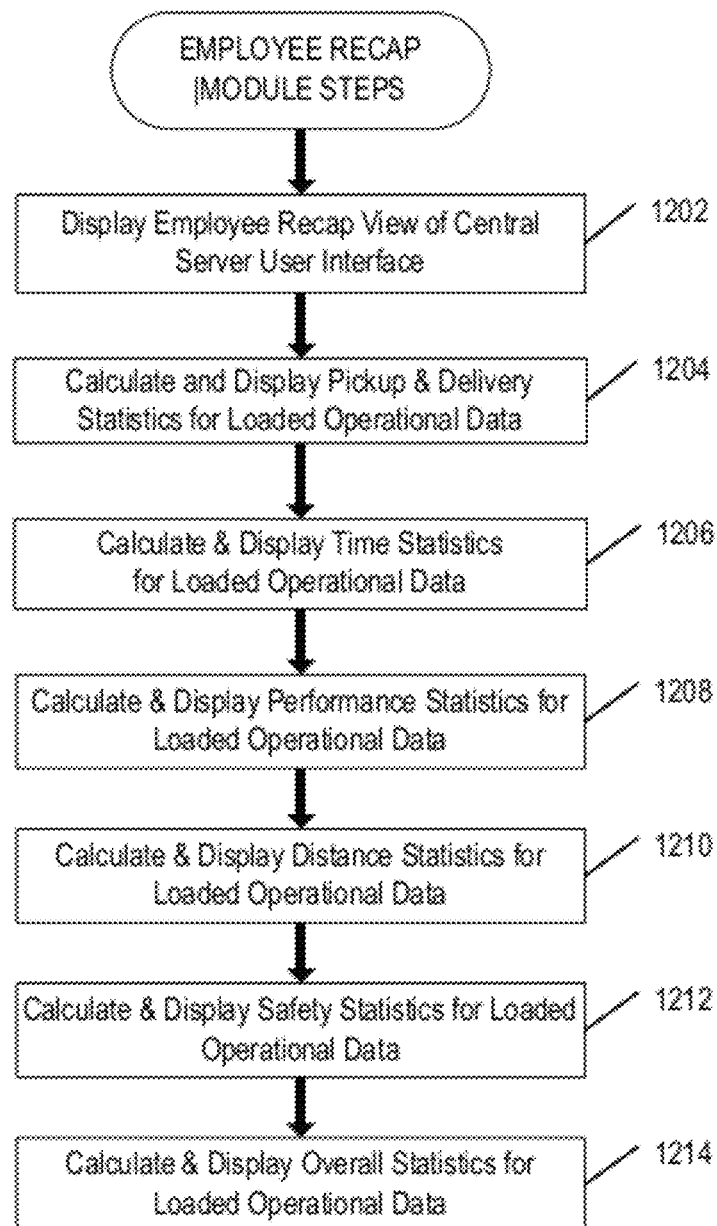
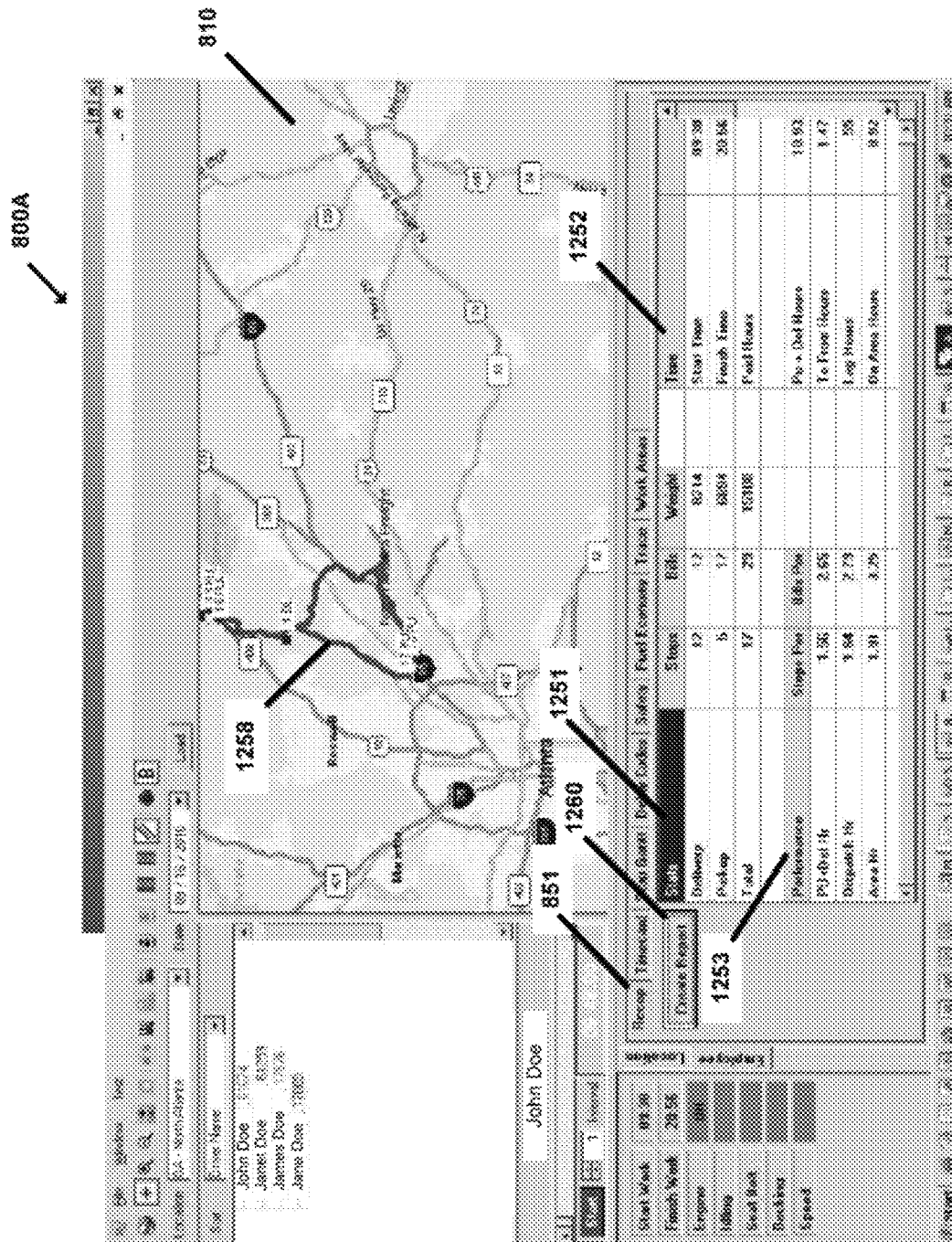


FIG. 12



Recap Report
Date: 9/16/2010

State	Stops	Bills	Weight	Time	
Delivery	12	12	8214	Start Time	09:30
Pickup	5	17	6894	Finish Time	20:56
Total	17	29	15108	Paid Hours	
Performance	Stops Per	Bills Per		Pu + Del Hours	10.93
Pu+Del Hr	1.56	2.65		To From Hours	1.47
Dispatch Hr	1.64	2.79		Lag Hours	.55
Area Hr	1.91	3.25		On Area Hours	9.82
Safety				Stop Hours	4.81
Seat Belt off in Travel	00:00			Dispatch Hours	11.09
Seat Belt off with Engine On	00:04				
Total Backing Events				Placed On Property Mins	30
Average Distance (R)				Pre Run Mins	22
Total Backing Time				Post Run Mins	11
Average MPH				Turn Mins	
				Dock Worker Pu+Del Mins	
State				No Run Mins	
Bills / Stop	1.71			Admin Mins	
has Freight Stops	0			Training Mins	
Driver Handling Units	135				
Customer Resp Bring Back	0			Miles	
Freight Resp Bring Back	0			Total Trips	1
Total Idle Time	1:04:01			To From Miles	34
TEER %	17.5 %			On Area Miles	17
				Total Miles	194
				GPS Miles	181
				Miles / Stop	10.82

FIG. 14

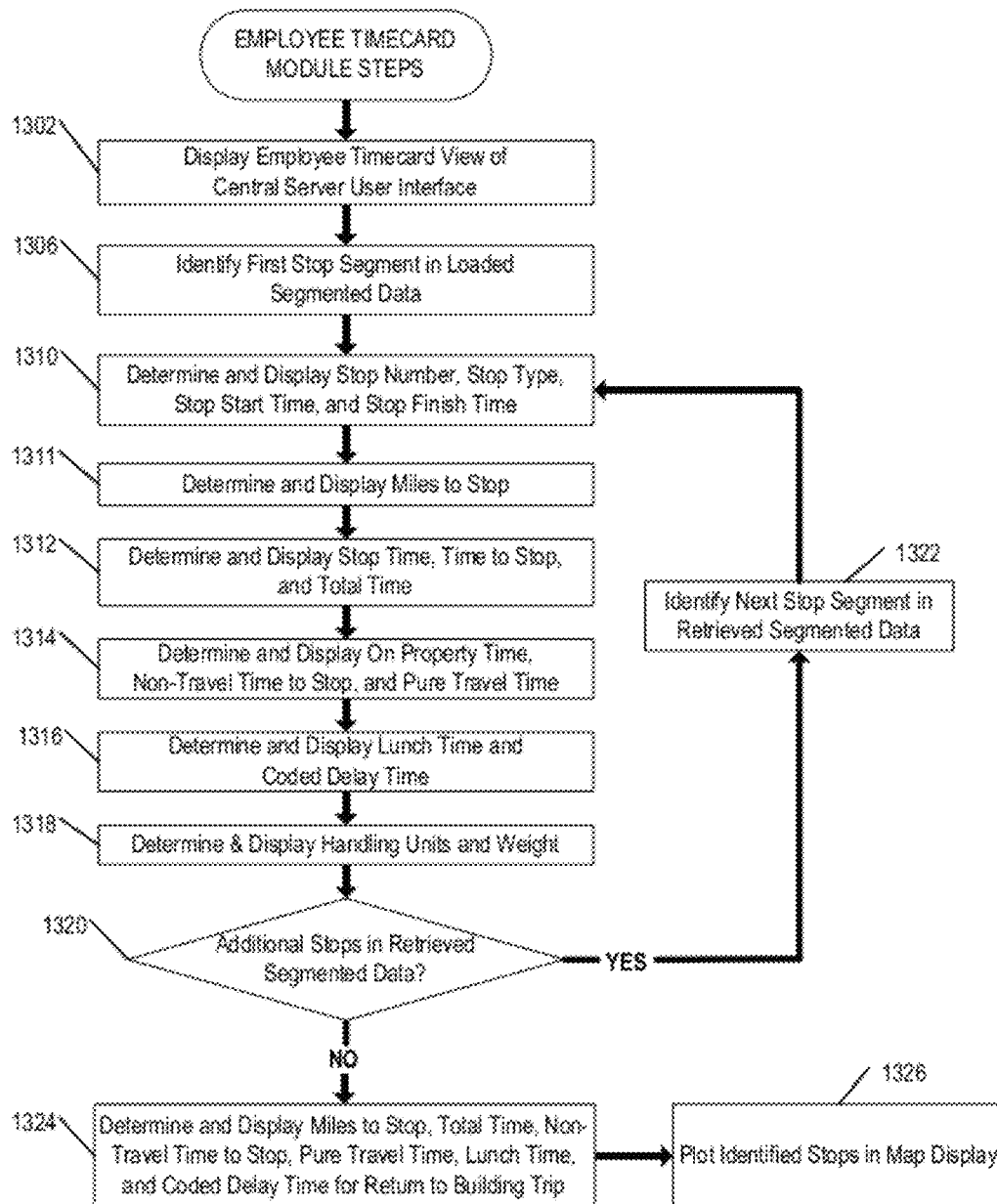


FIG. 15

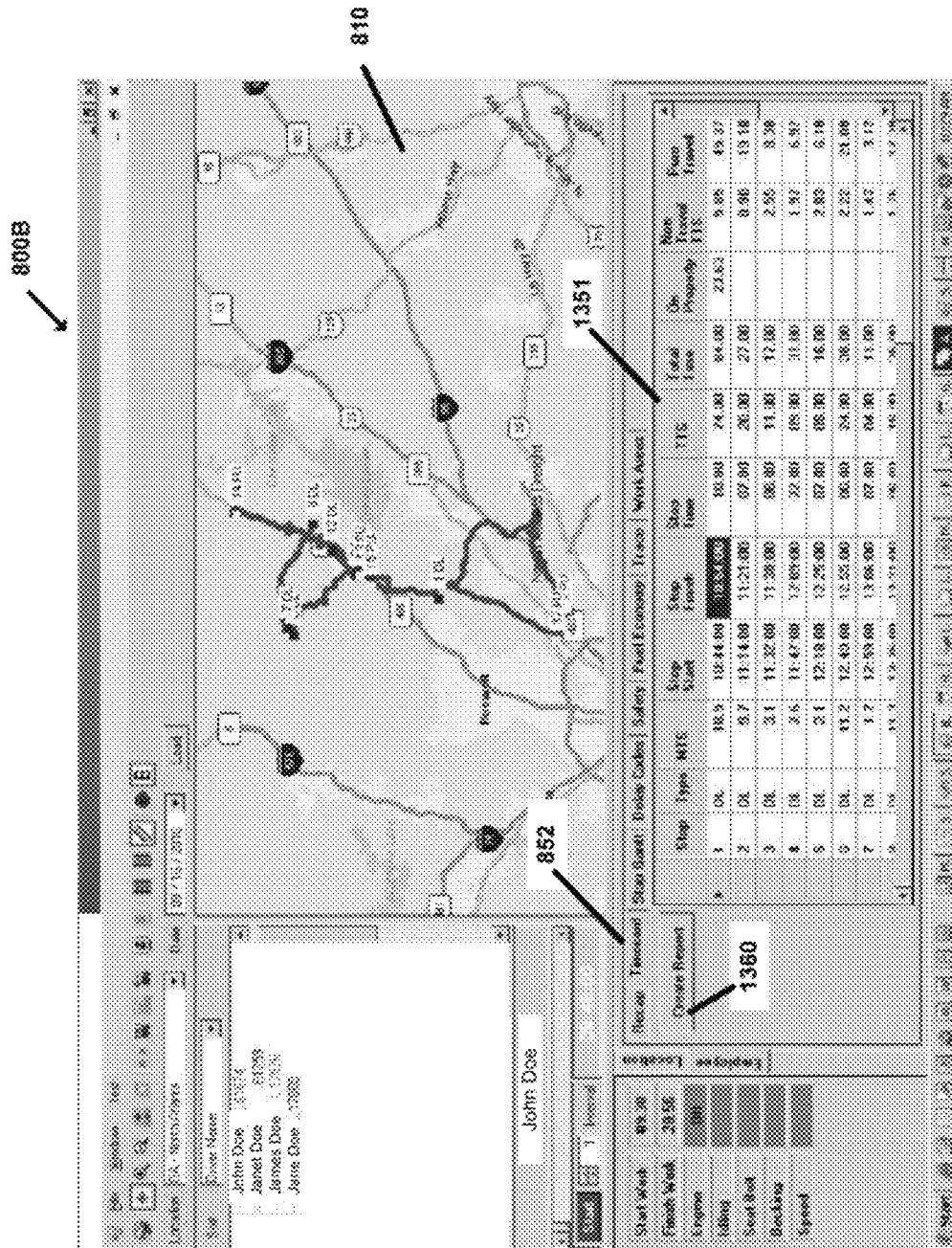


FIG. 16

GA - North Atlanta
Driver: John Doe

Stop Report
Date: 9/16/2010

1351

Stop	Type	MTS	Stop Start	Stop Finish	Stop Time	TTS	Total Time	On Non Travel Property	Non Travel TTS	Pure Travel	Lunch	Coded Delay	Handling Units	Weight
1	DL	18.5	10:44:00	10:54:00	10:00	74:00	84:00	23:03	5:85	45:37			3	131
2	DL	9.7	11:14:00	11:21:00	07:00	20:00	27:00		0:00	19:18			5	48
3	DL	3.1	11:23:00	11:26:00	06:00	11:00	17:00		2:55	8:39			10	56
4	DL	2.6	11:47:00	12:09:00	22:00	09:00	31:00		1:97	6:97			1	12
5	DL	2.1	12:18:00	12:25:00	07:00	08:00	15:00		2:83	6:10			12	52
6	DL	11.2	12:49:00	12:55:00	06:00	24:00	30:00		2:22	21:80			23	275
7	DL	1.2	12:59:00	13:06:00	07:00	04:00	11:00		1:42	3:12			2	140
8	DL	11.2	13:25:00	13:31:00	06:00	19:00	25:00		1:75	17:20			15	19
9	DL	9.5	13:46:00	13:53:00	12:00	15:00	27:00		1:00	13:42			2	32
10	DL	0.5	14:01:00	14:32:00	31:00	03:00	34:00		1:38	2:03			3	16
11	DL	0.8	15:06:00	15:15:00	09:00	34:00	43:00		1:07	2:87	30:00		14	43
12	DL	10.9	15:33:00	15:36:00	03:00	18:00	21:00		2:07	15:87			1	125
13	PU	4.7	15:52:00	16:12:00	20:00	14:00	34:00		0:73	13:20			4	56
14	PU	16.7	16:41:00	17:02:00	21:00	20:00	50:00		1:17	27:12		1:00	1	251
15	PU	16.4	17:26:00	17:31:00	07:00	24:00	31:00		1:73	22:20			22	89
16	PU	21.4	18:30:00	18:56:00	25:00	07:00	02:00		4:70	52:28			3	40
17	PU	25.7	19:39:00	20:09:00	30:00	44:00	74:00		2:38	39:82		2:00	8	30
	RTB	15.6					47:00	14:77	0:95	35:43				

FIG. 17

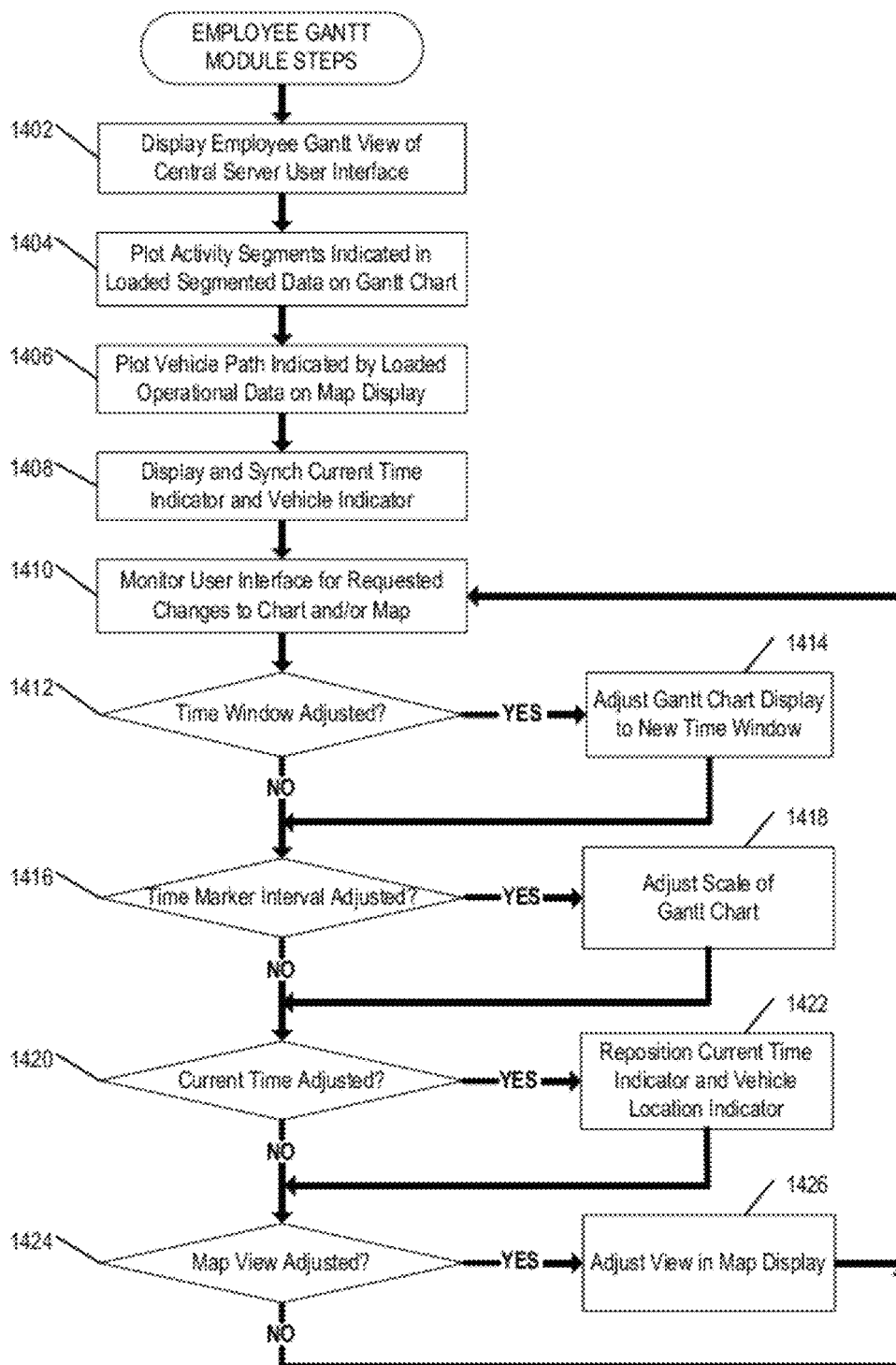


FIG. 18

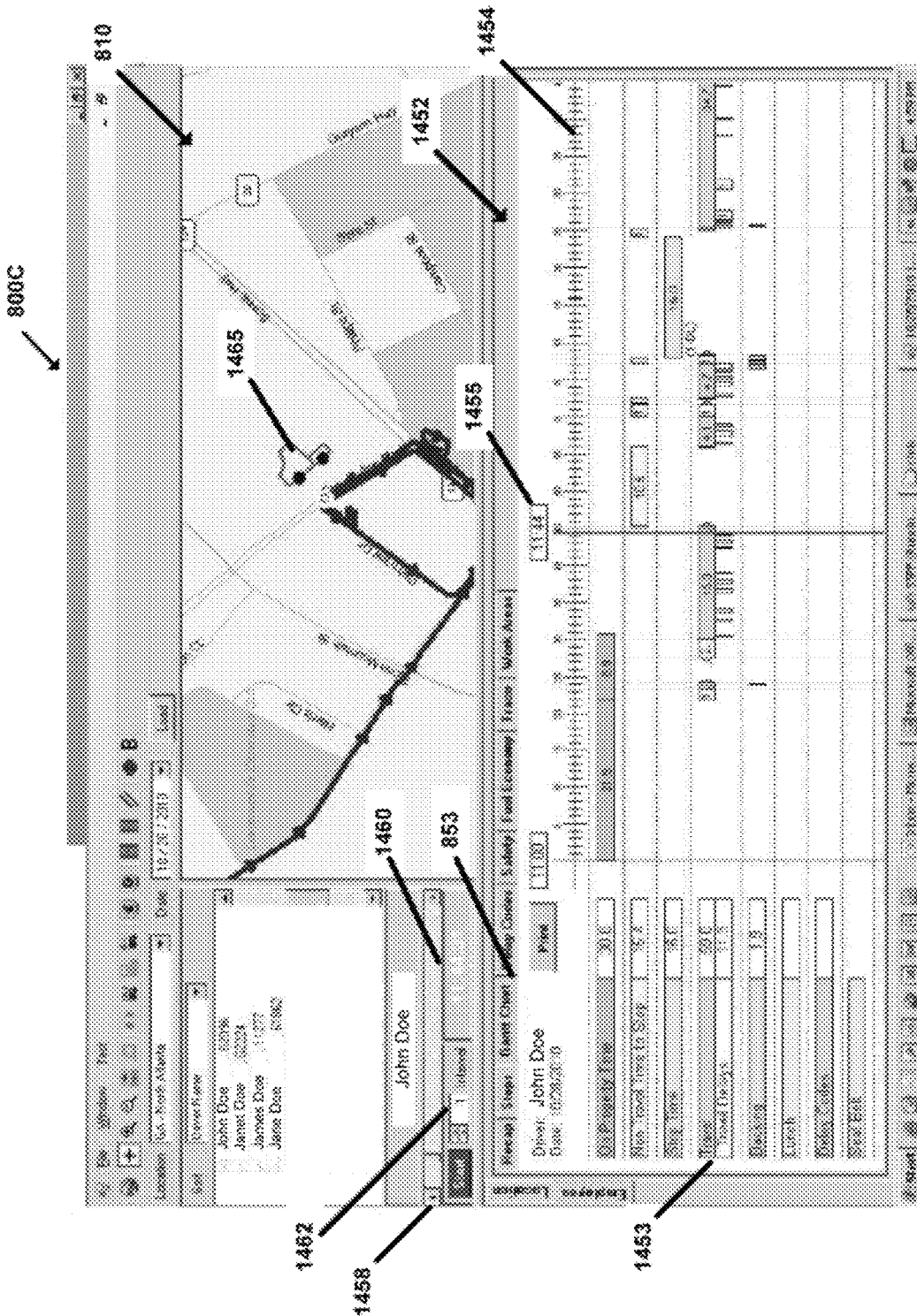


FIG. 19

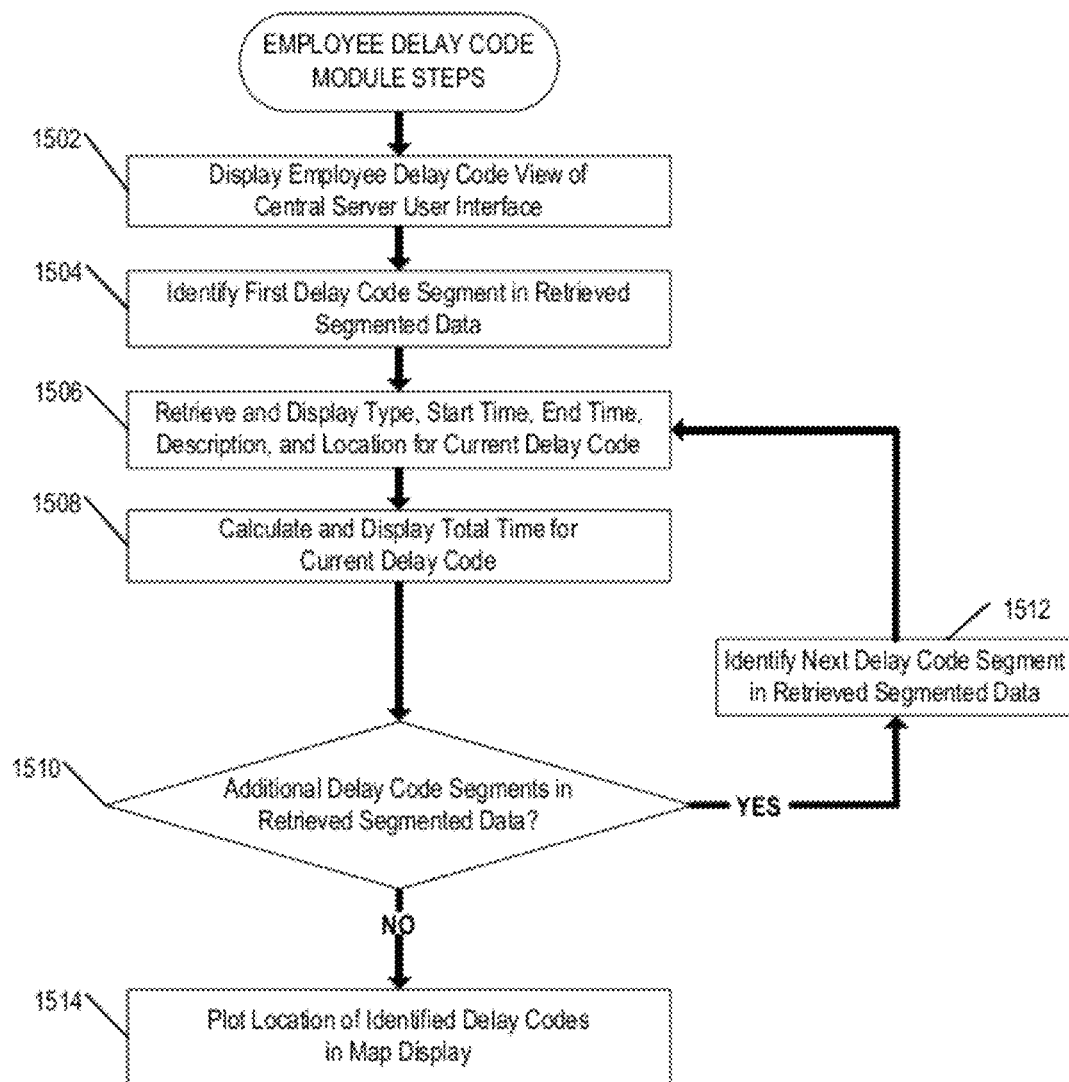


FIG. 20

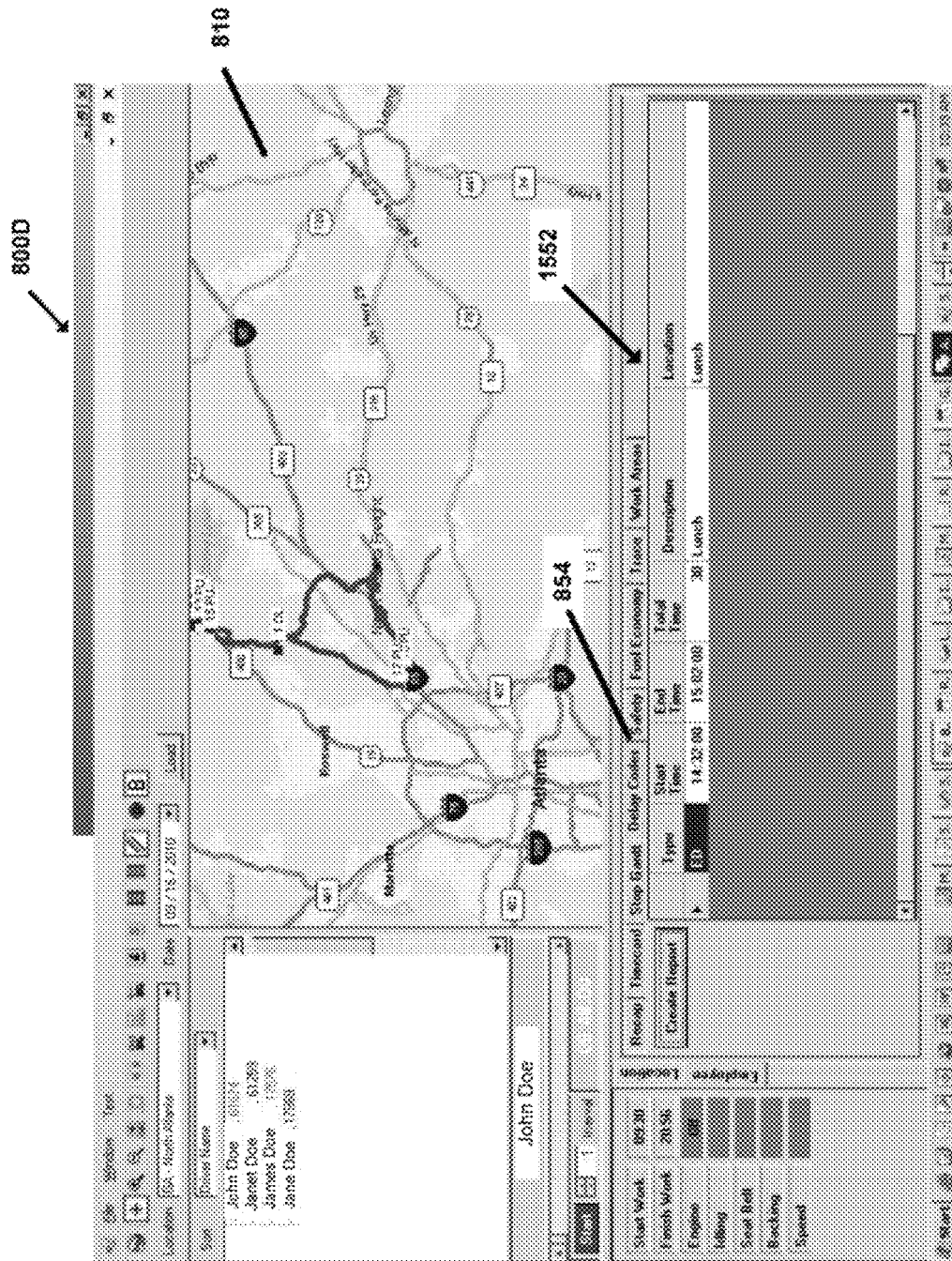


FIG. 21

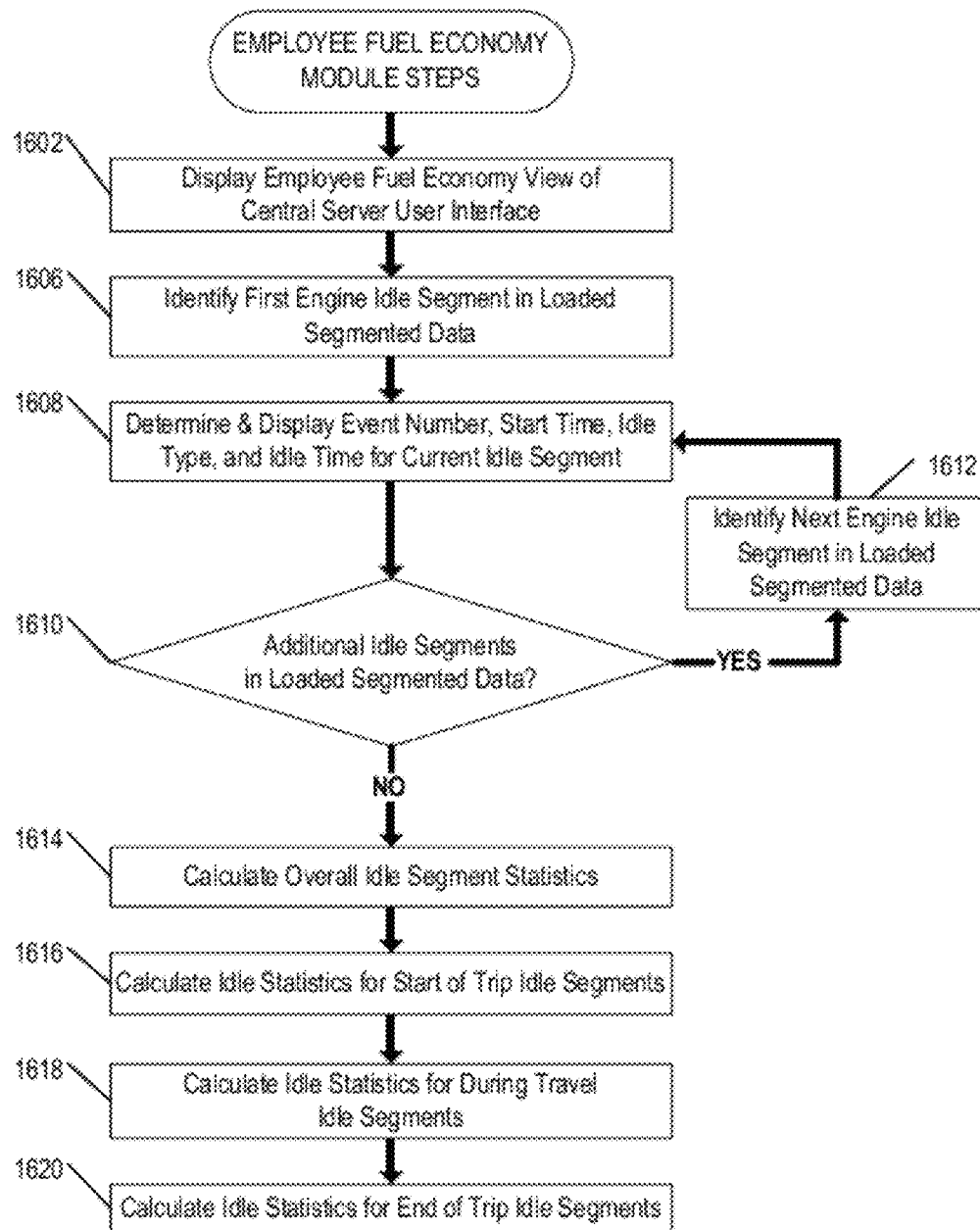


FIG. 22

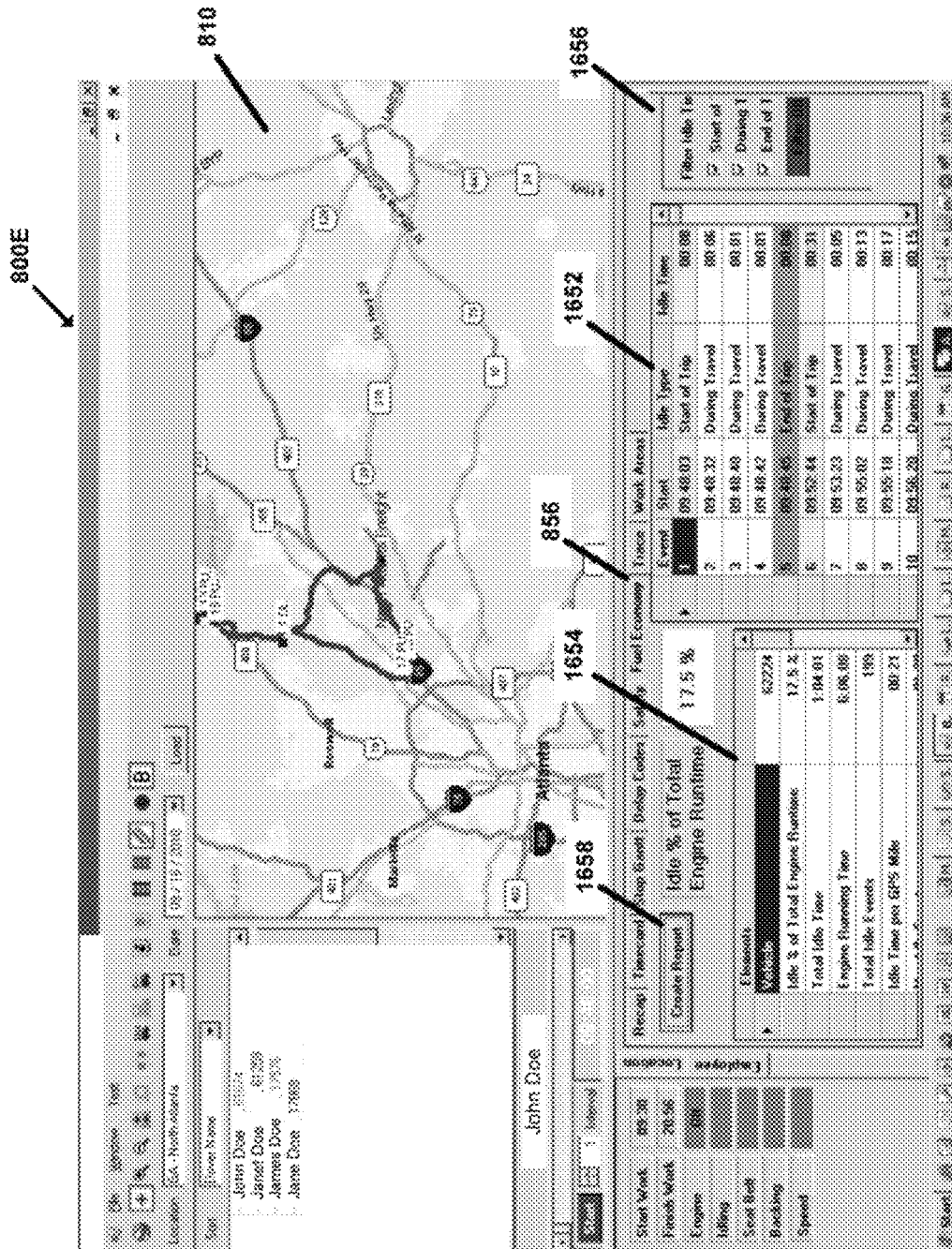


FIG. 23

GA - North Atlanta
Driver: John Doe

1654

Idle Time Report
Date: 9/16/2010

1650

1652

Elements	
Vehicle	62224
Idle % of Total Engine Runtime	17.5 %
Total Idle Time	1:04:01
Engine Running Time	6:06:08
Total Idle Events	199
Idle Time per GPS Mile	00:21
Max Idle Event	01:36
Start of Trip - Events	26
Start of Trip - Idle Time	05:16
Start of Trip - Average	12
Start of Trip - Max Event	00:33
During Travel - Events	151
During Travel - Idle Time	50:14
During Travel - Average	20
During Travel - Max Event	01:36
End of Trip - Events	22
End of Trip - Idle Time	08:23
End of Trip - Average	23
End of Trip - Max Event	01:26

Event	Start	Idle Type	Idle Time
1	09:48:03	Start of Trip	00:08
2	09:48:32	During Travel	00:06
3	09:48:40	During Travel	00:01
4	09:48:42	During Travel	00:01
5	09:48:45	End of Trip	00:08
6	09:52:44	Start of Trip	00:31
7	09:53:23	During Travel	00:06
8	09:55:02	During Travel	00:13
9	09:55:19	During Travel	00:17
10	09:56:20	During Travel	00:15
11	09:58:53	During Travel	01:20
12	10:04:01	During Travel	00:24
13	10:10:55	During Travel	00:26
14	10:14:14	During Travel	00:01
15	10:17:04	During Travel	00:06
16	10:17:51	During Travel	00:28
17	10:19:41	During Travel	00:08
18	10:23:49	During Travel	00:30
19	10:26:28	Start of Trip	00:08
20	10:30:11	During Travel	00:15
21	10:30:48	During Travel	00:07
22	10:33:20	During Travel	00:15
23	10:35:42	During Travel	00:47
24	10:40:40	End of Trip	00:00

* * * * *

182	20:43:32	During Travel	01:03
183	20:43:38	During Travel	00:02
184	20:43:47	End of Trip	00:42
185	20:46:28	Start of Trip	00:14
186	20:49:58	During Travel	00:07
187	20:50:09	End of Trip	00:01

FIG. 24

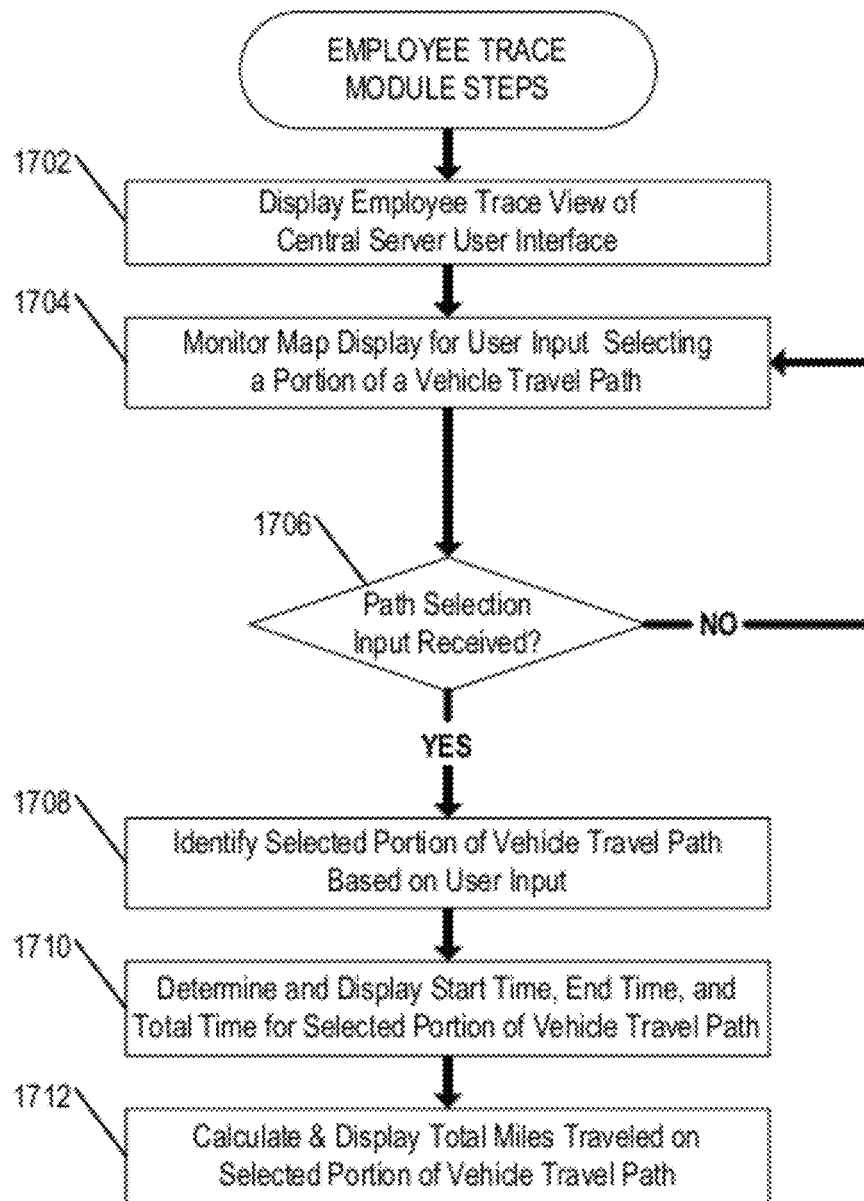


FIG. 25

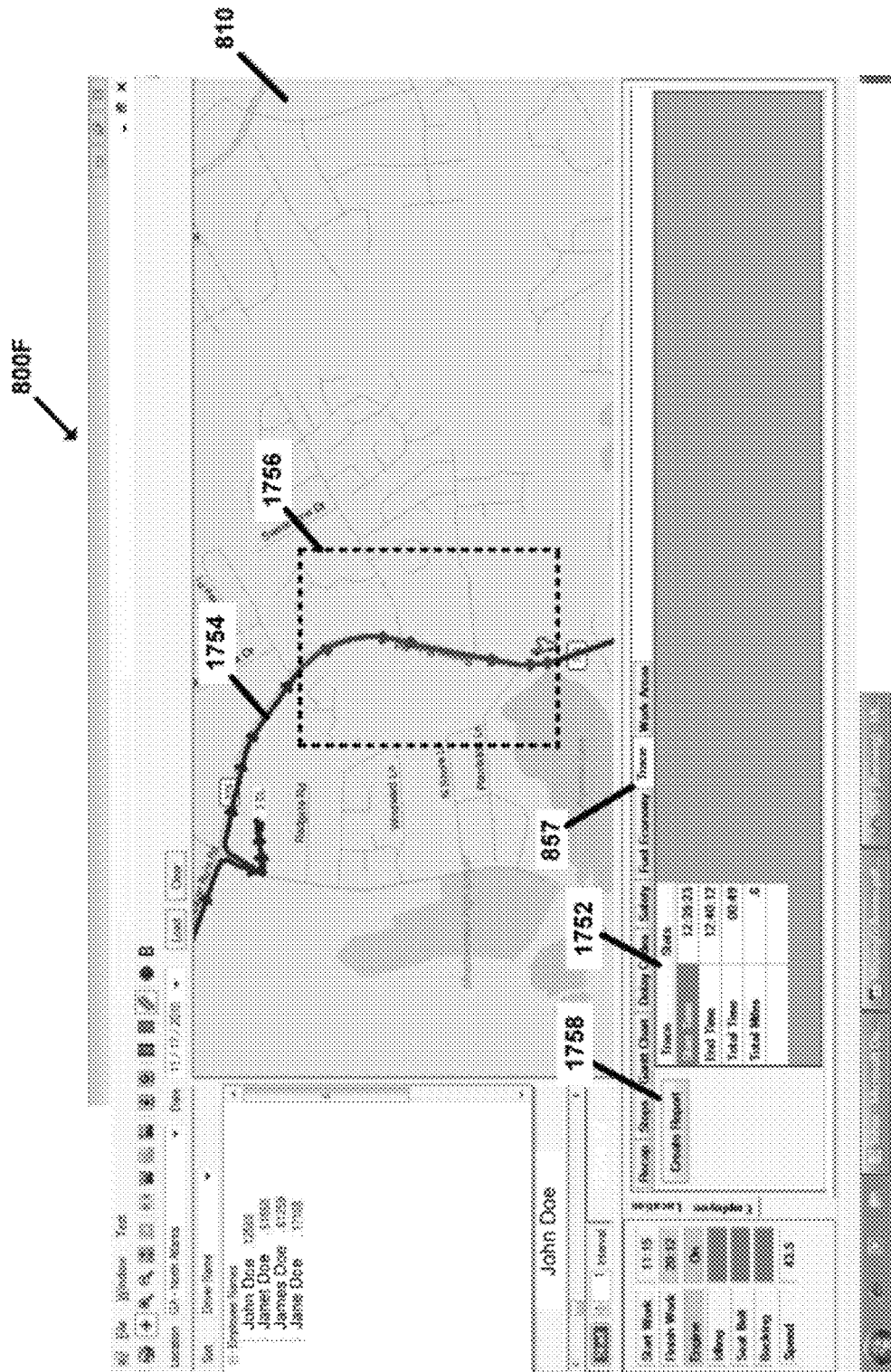


FIG. 26

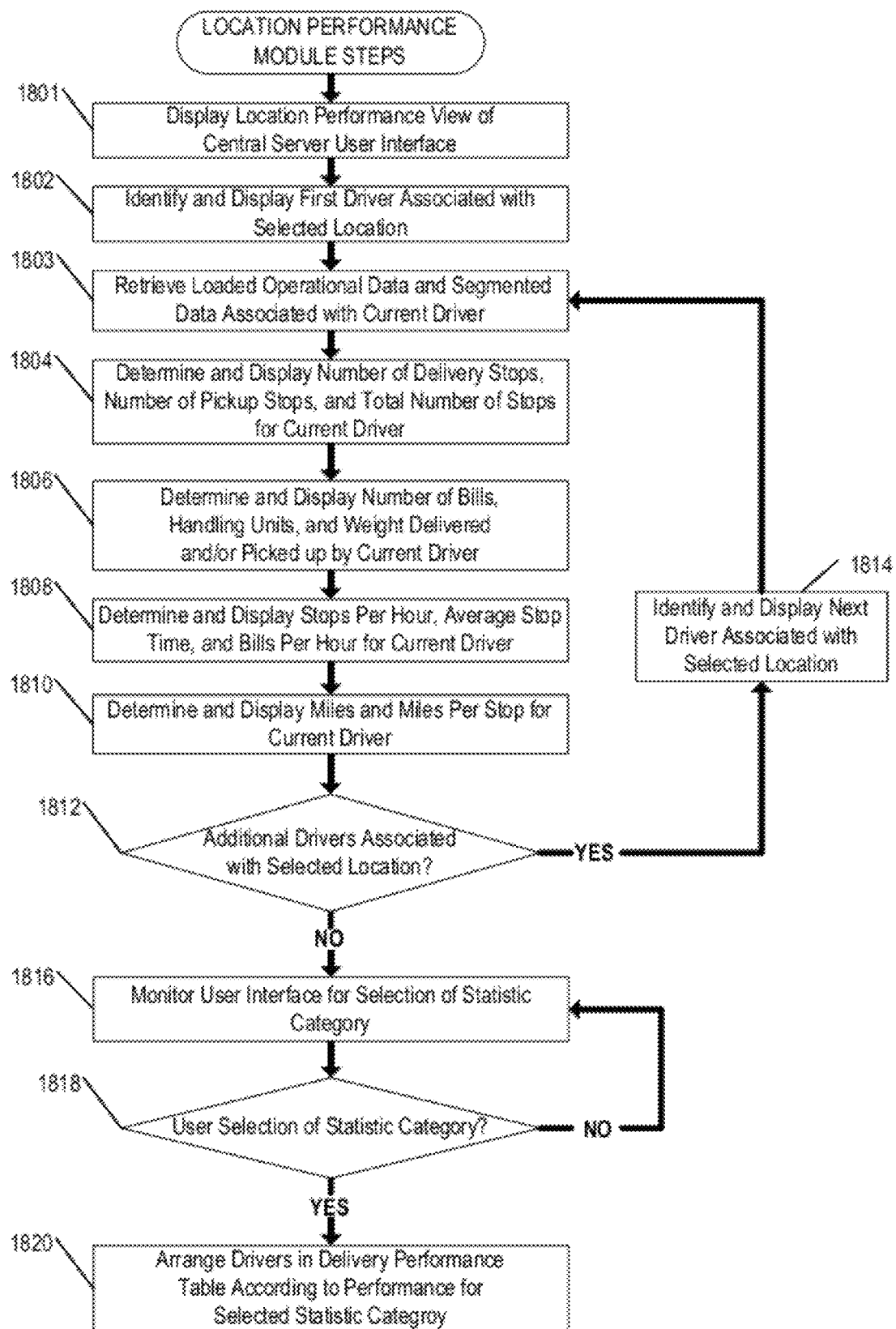
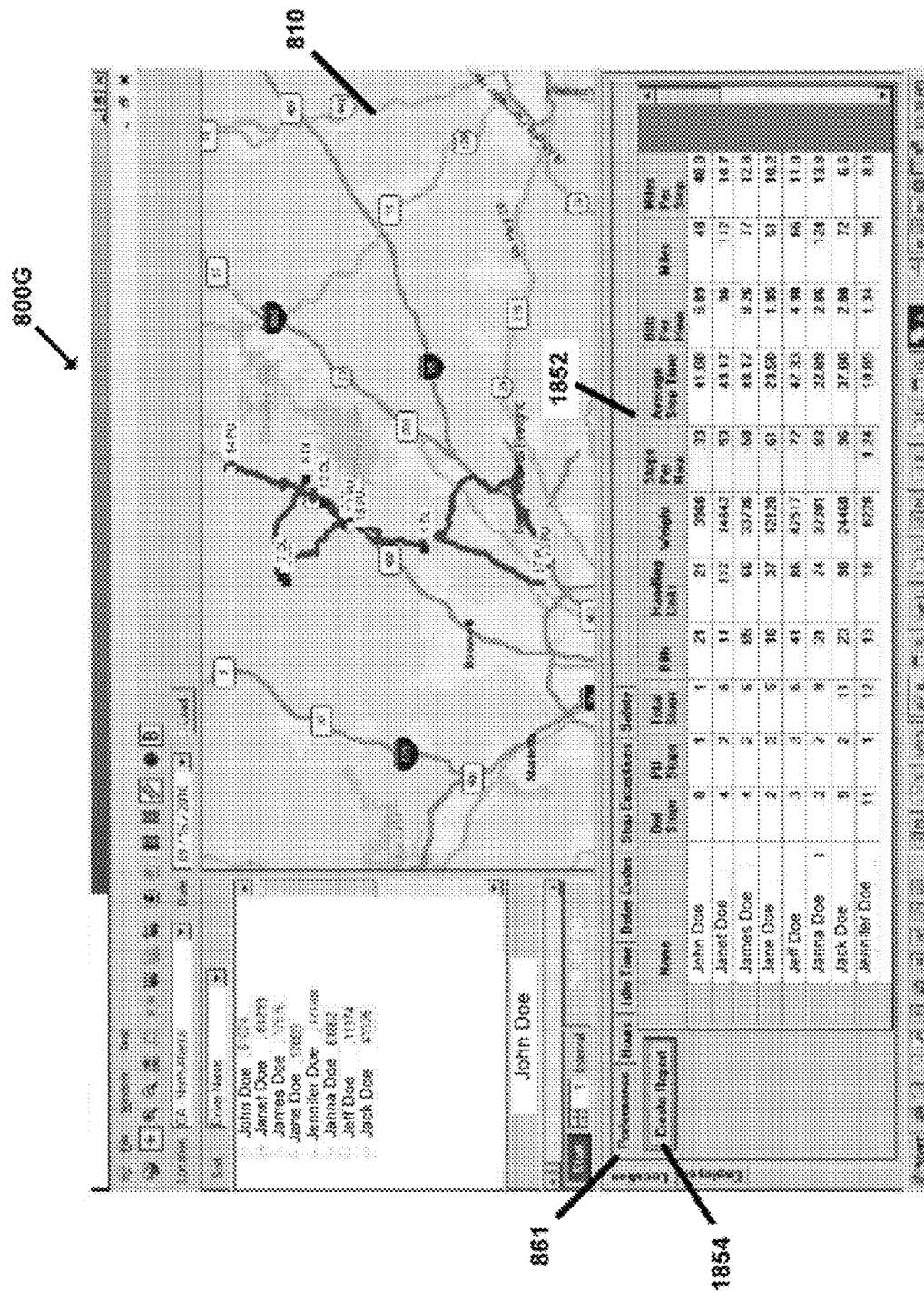


FIG. 27



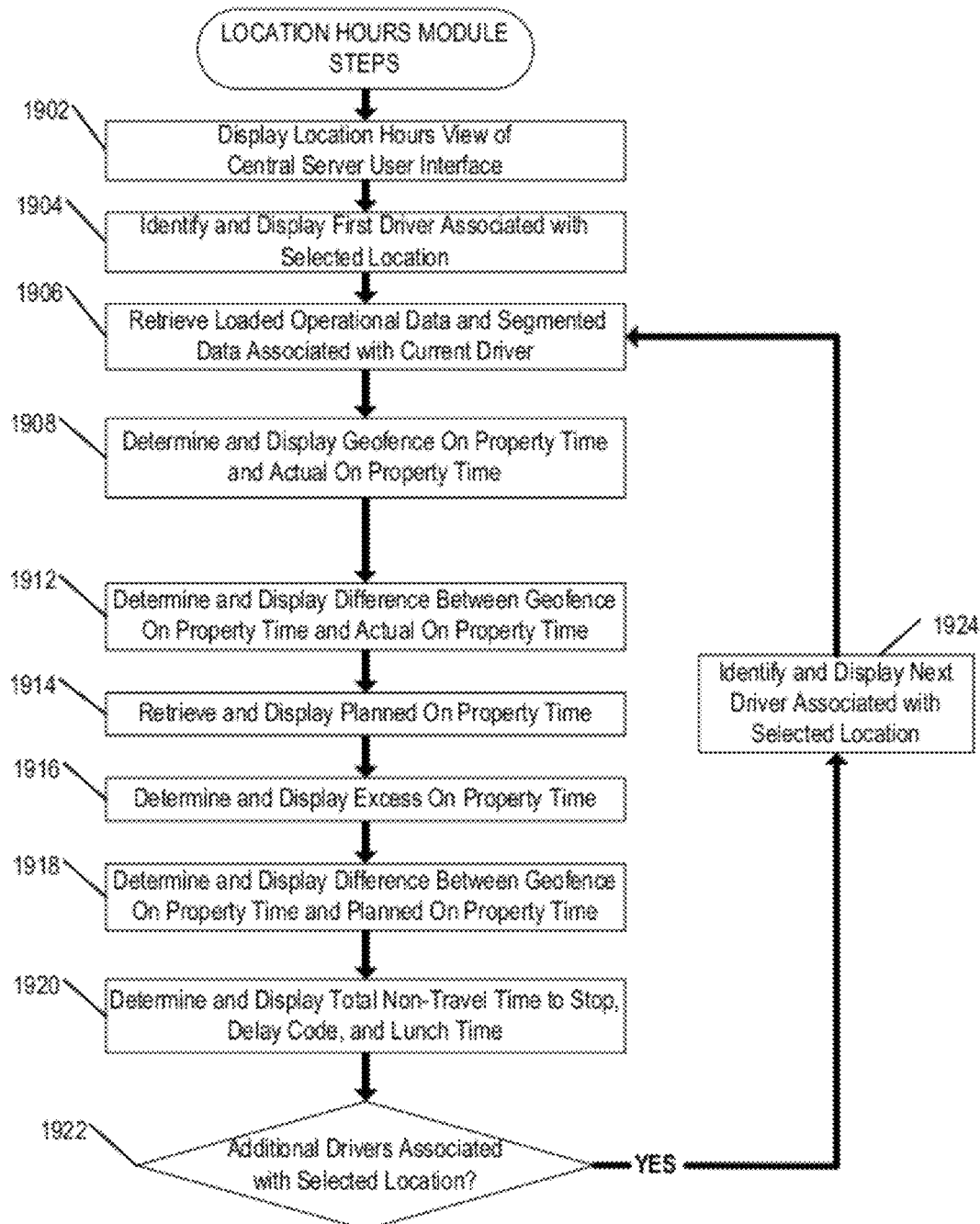


FIG. 29

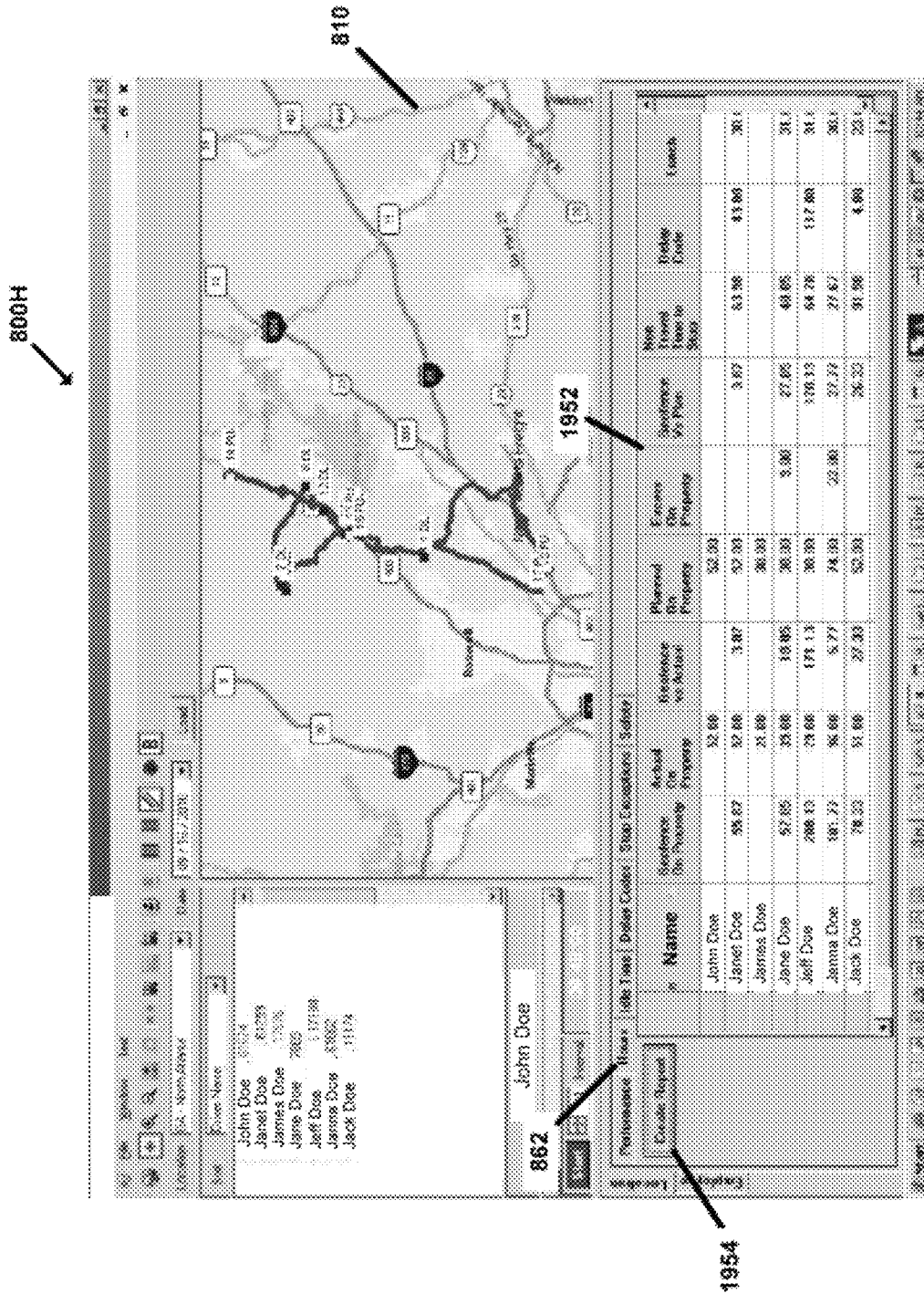


FIG. 30

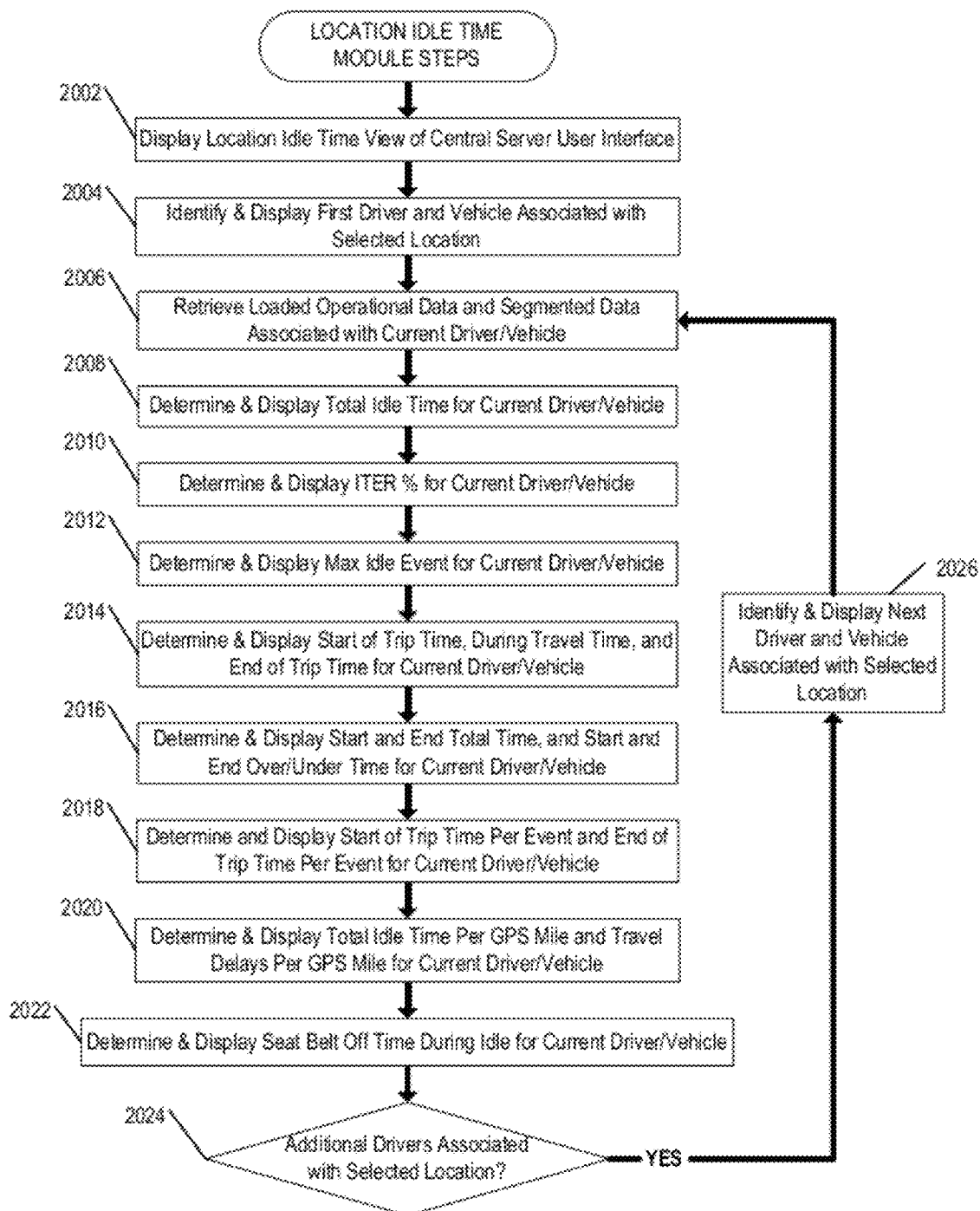
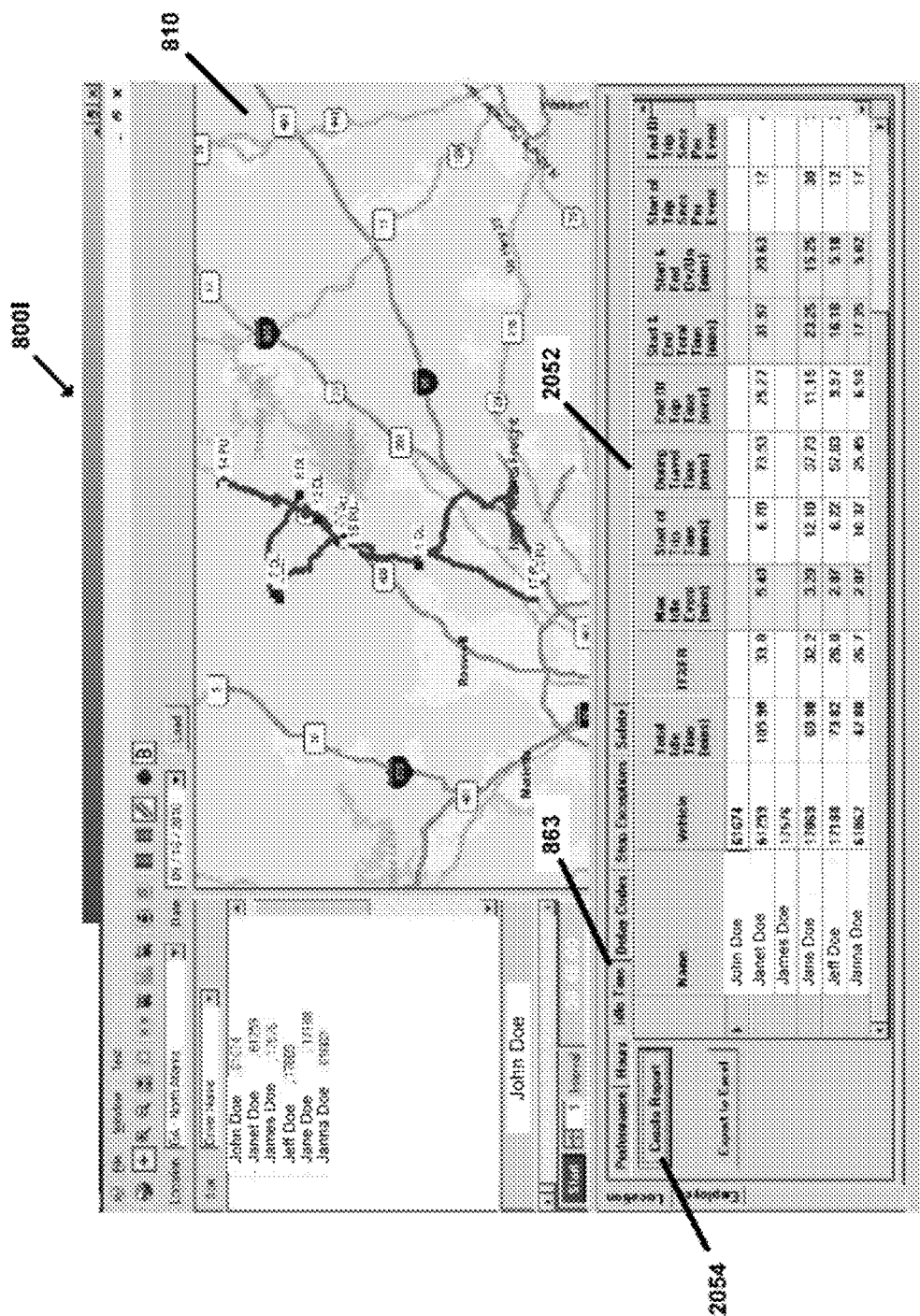


FIG. 31



2050



GA - North Atlanta **Idle Summary Report** **Date: 9/16/2010**

Name	Vehicle	Total Idle Time (mins)	ITNER	Max Idle Event (mins)	Start of Trip Time (mins)	During Travel Time (mins)	End Of Trip Time (mins)	Start & End Total Time (mins)	Start & End On/Off Time (mins)	Start of Trip Event Per Event	End Of Trip Event Per Event	Total Idle Per GPS Mile (secs)	Travel Delays per GPS Mile (secs)	Best Bid Off Whole \$2000 (mins)
John Doe	61674													
Janet Doe	61269	105.90	33.0	5.40	6.70	73.90	25.27	31.97	20.03	12	46	73	51	37
James Doe	17576													
Jane Doe	17608	60.96	32.2	3.38	13.10	37.73	11.15	23.25	15.25	30	32	58	36	42
Jeff Doe	17186	73.92	26.0	2.87	6.23	57.63	9.97	16.19	5.16	12	24	43	33	
Jenna Doe	61662	42.60	26.7	2.07	10.37	25.46	6.96	17.36	5.02	17	15	38	23	147
Jack Doe	11174	63.47	30.5	1.60	8.42	60.30	14.75	23.17	12.17	15	26	68	46	59
Jennifer Doe	61175	85.85	28.4	3.48	15.73	57.92	12.20	37.60	16.93	29	23	49	33	30
Jim Doe	62096	65.77	27.8	2.03	16.06	38.35	11.40	27.46	5.32	19	16	52	30	109
Jason Doe	62324	84.02	17.5	1.63	5.27	59.23	8.36	13.65	4.65	13	23	21	17	37
Jenna Doe	61608	94.77	27.9	2.38	12.80	87.93	14.63	27.23	16.23	34	28	45	32	819
Jacobi Doe	12506	44.47	26.9	3.97	6.45	31.43	6.56	13.03	10.03	48	44	44	31	95.25
Jonathan Doe	12567	71.02	32.4	2.73	9.33	43.15	21.52	29.97	16.97	13	40	73	43	
Joe Doe	17701	69.87	26.9	3.22	4.06	59.37	15.42	19.60	11.03	11	46	45	33	10

FIG. 33

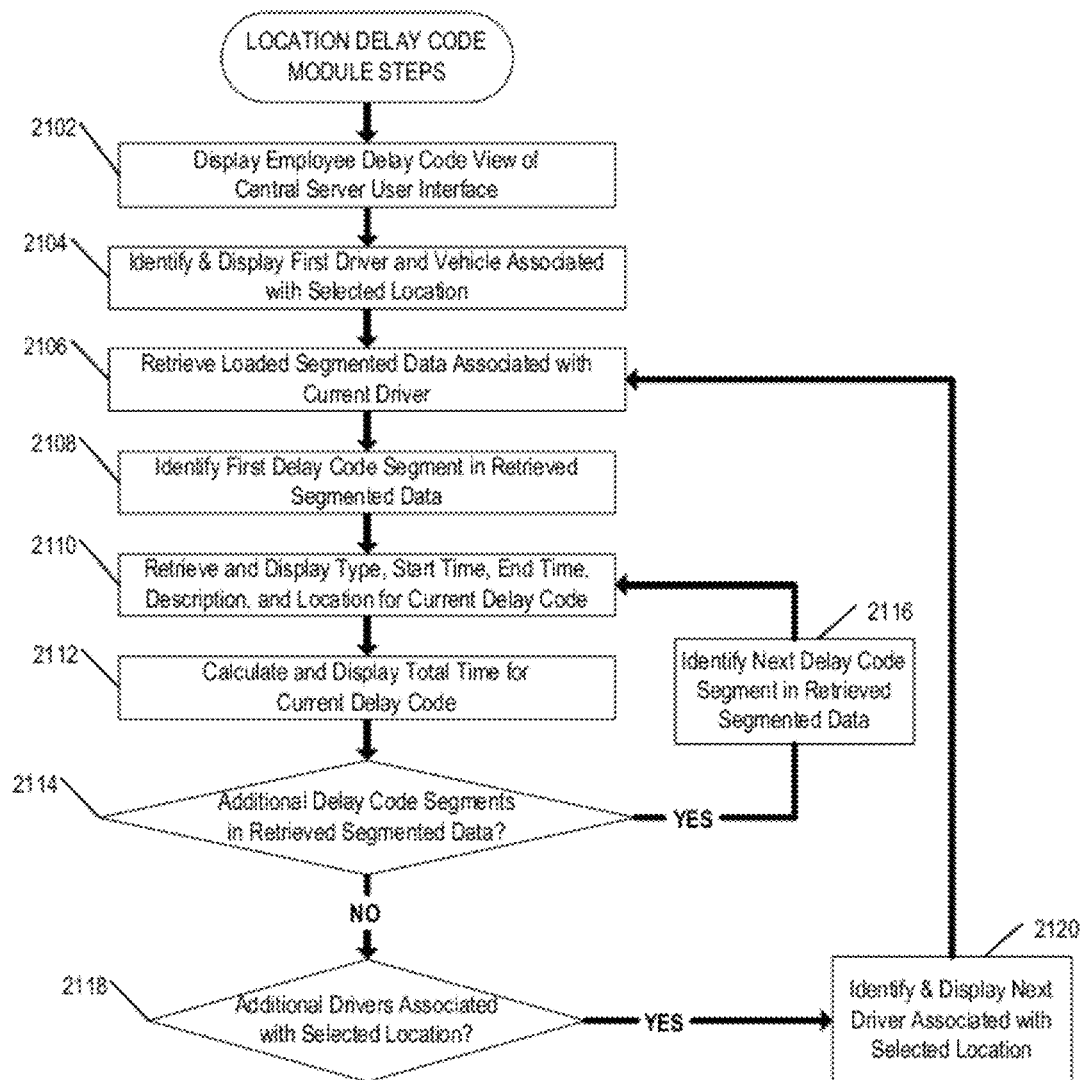


FIG. 34

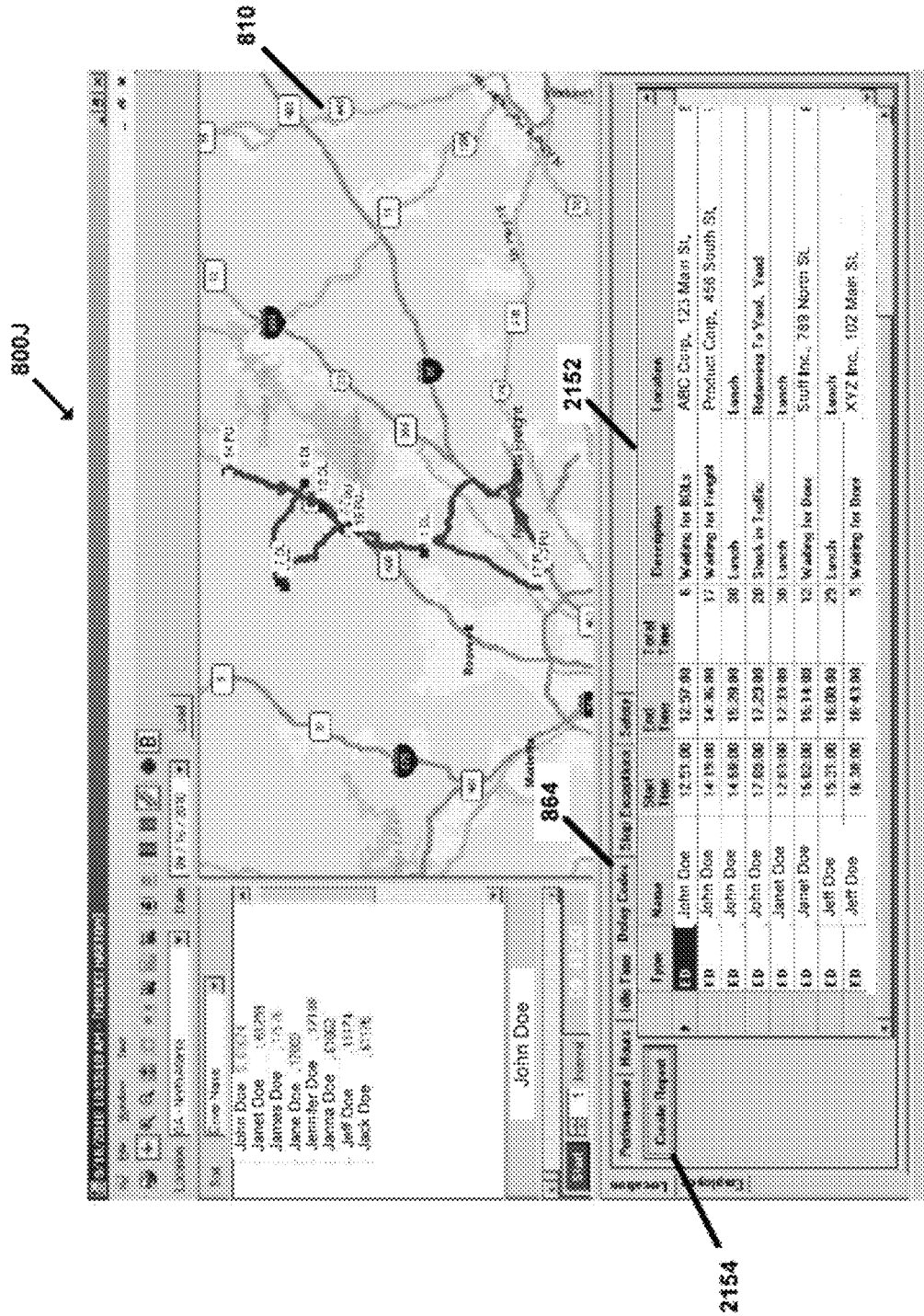


FIG. 35

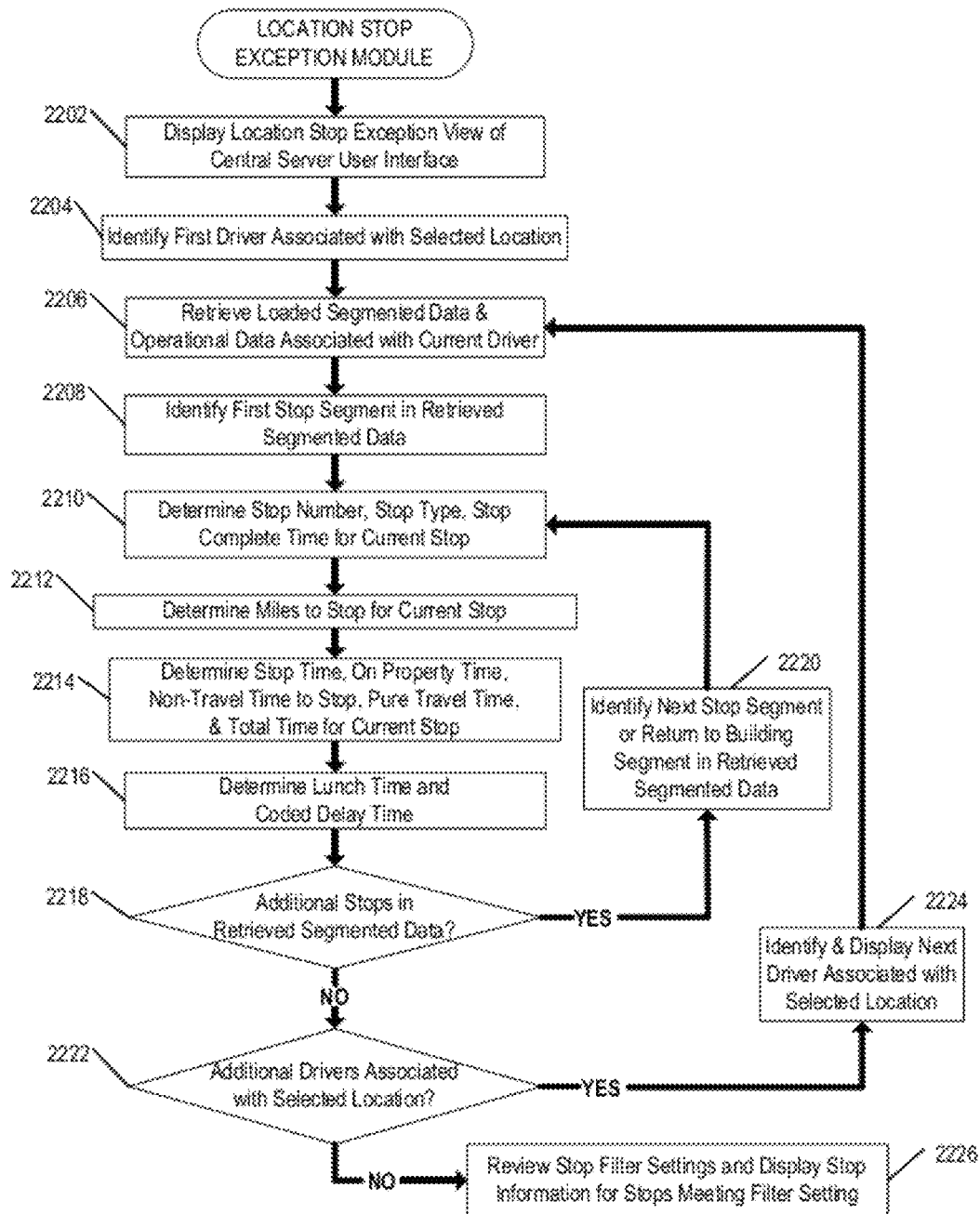
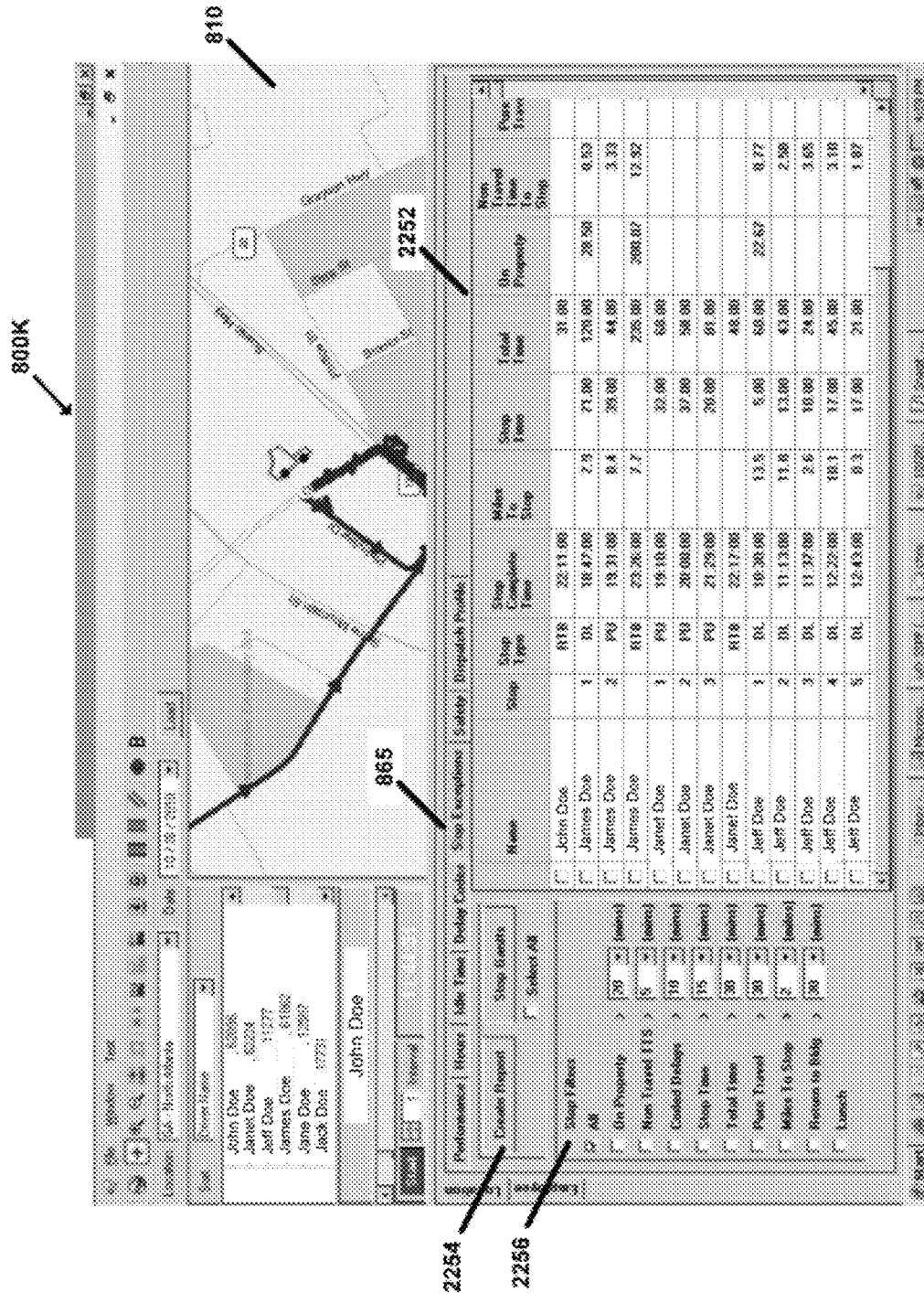


FIG. 36



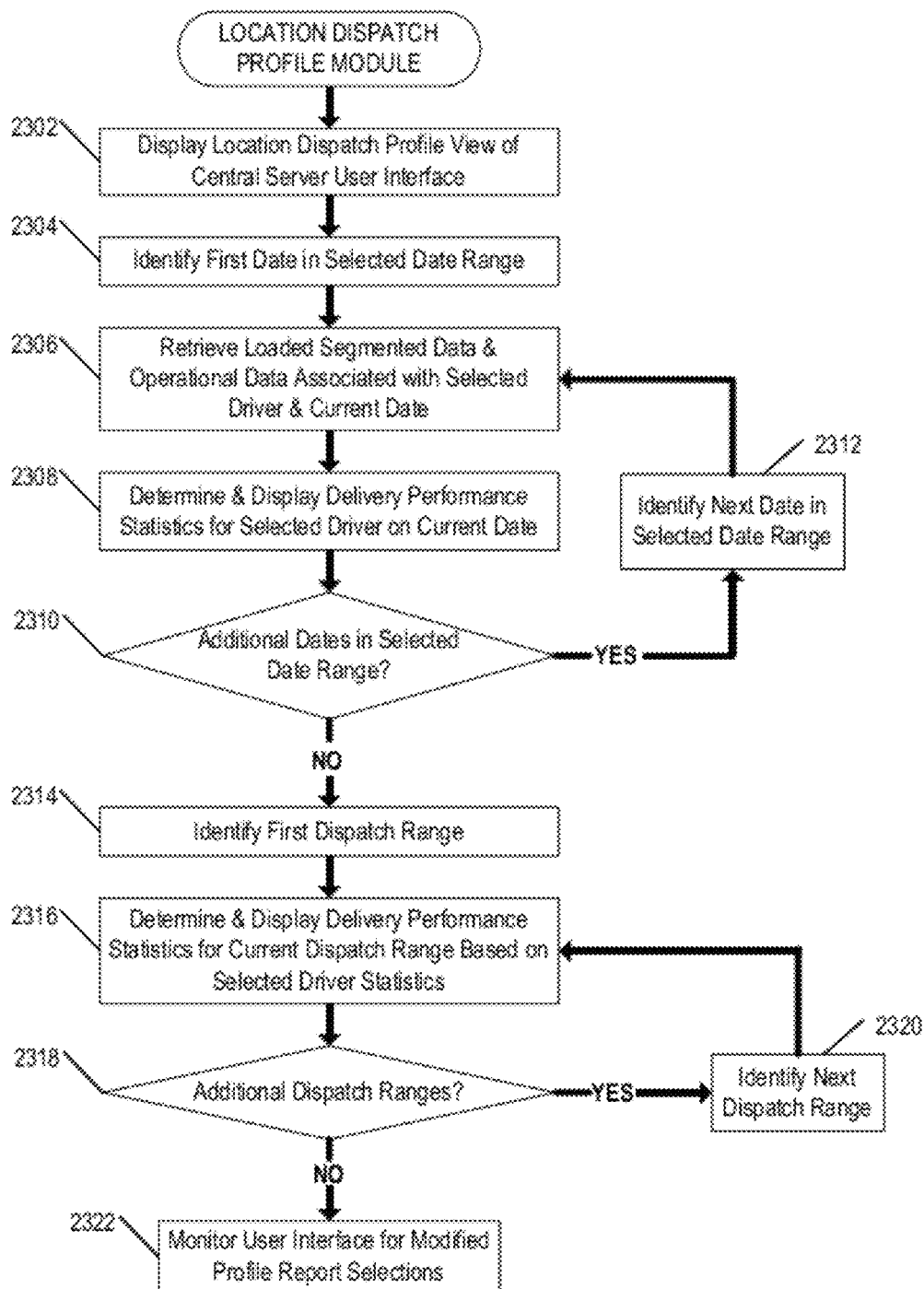


FIG. 38

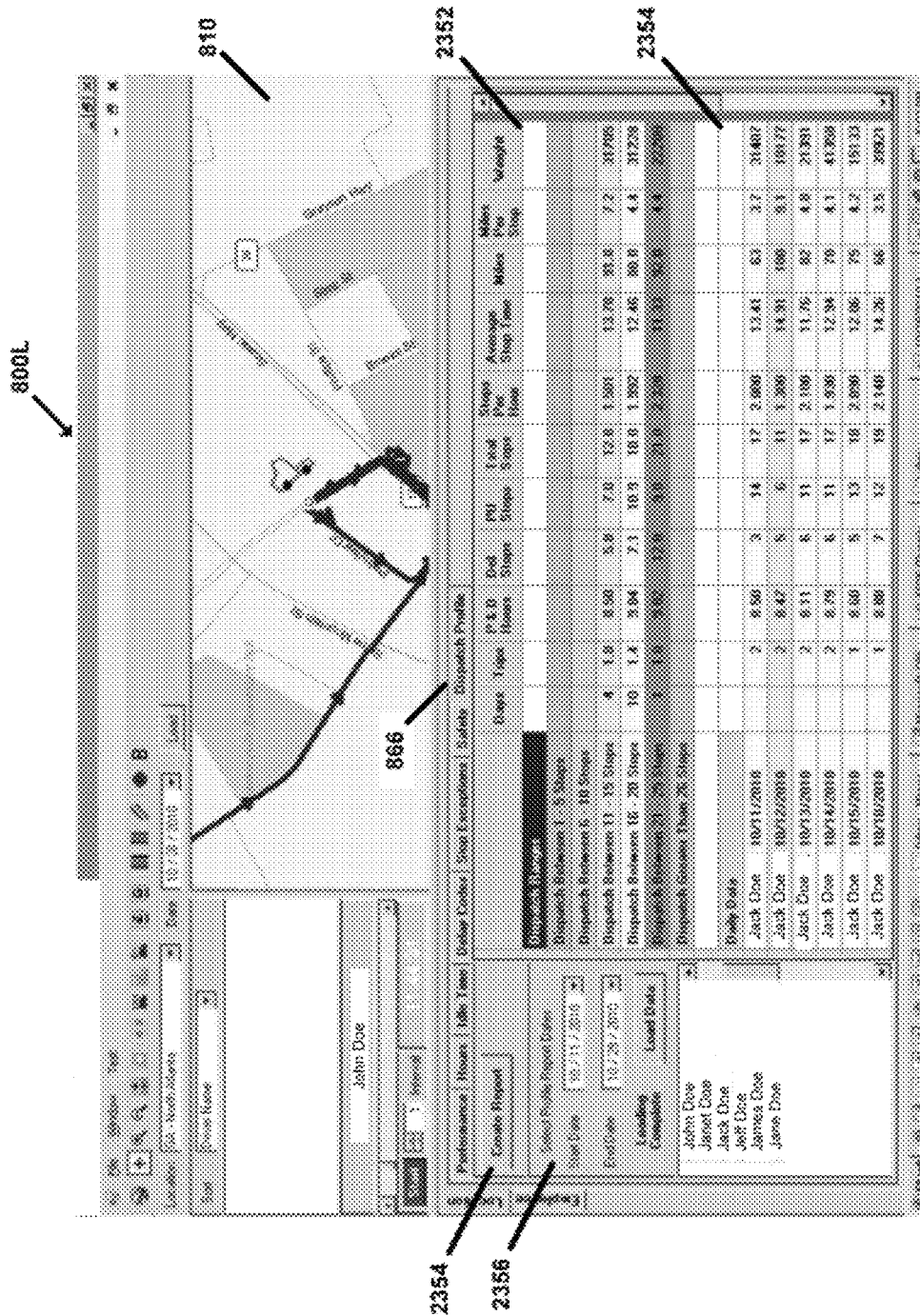
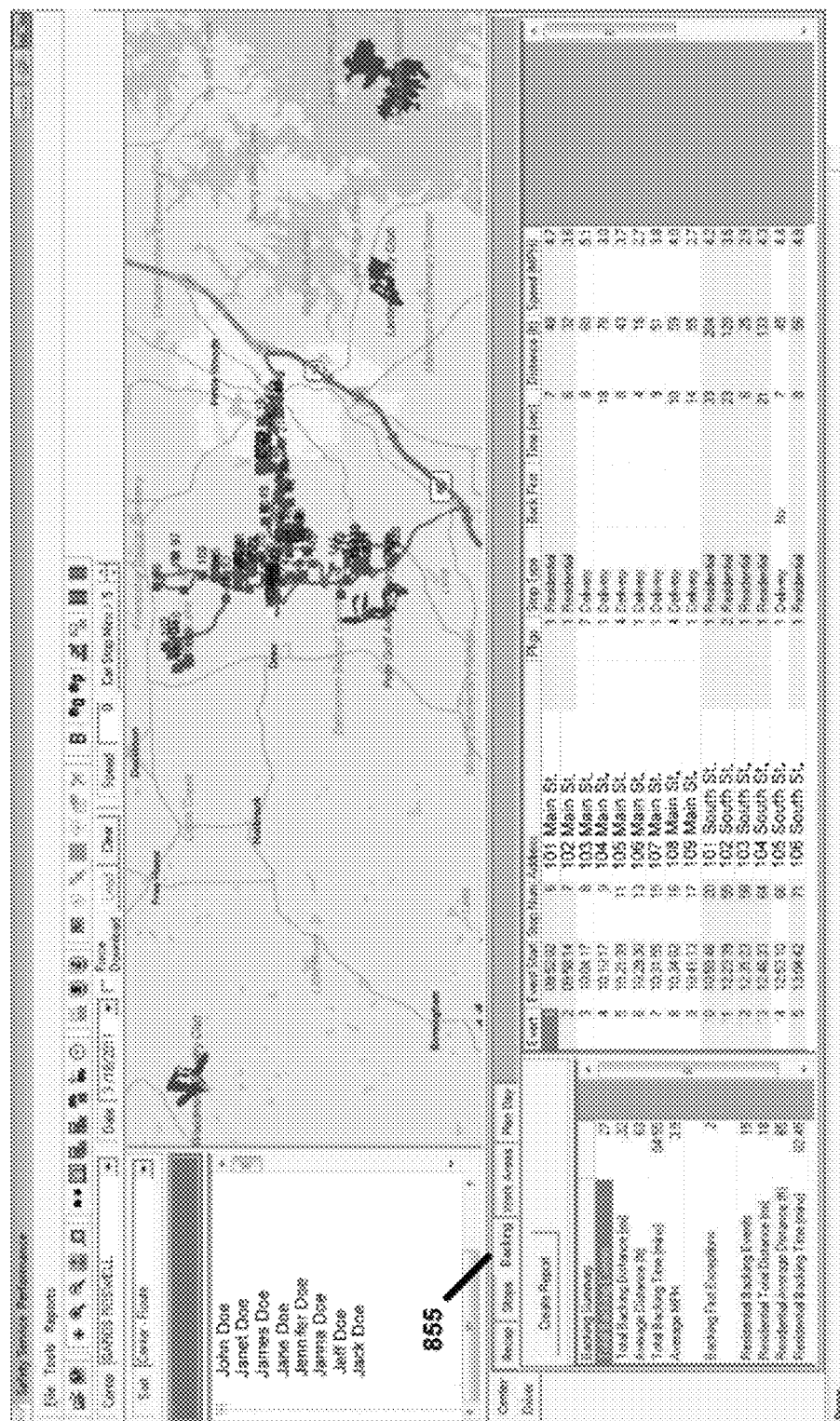


FIG. 39



40
G.
E

800N

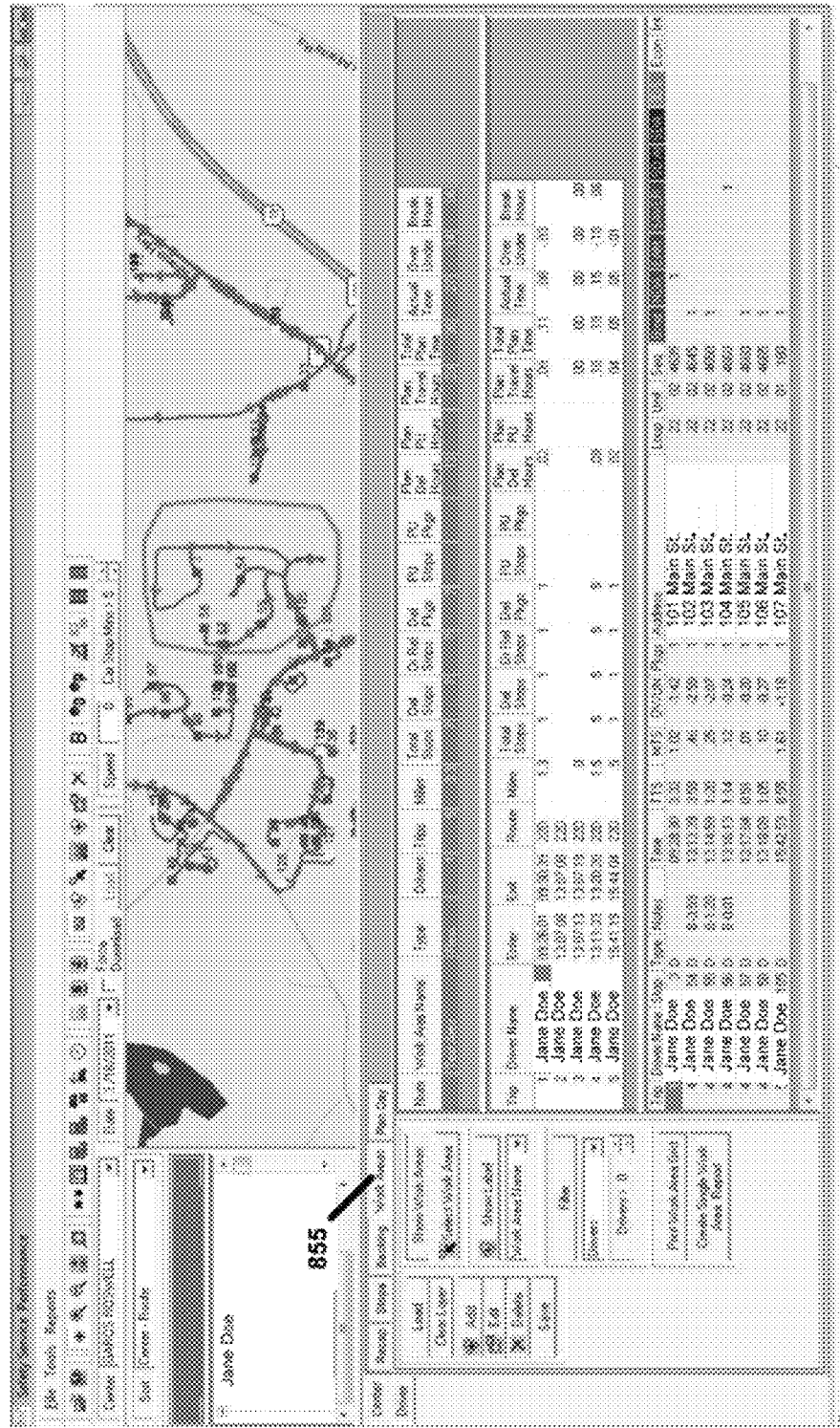


FIG. 41

800P

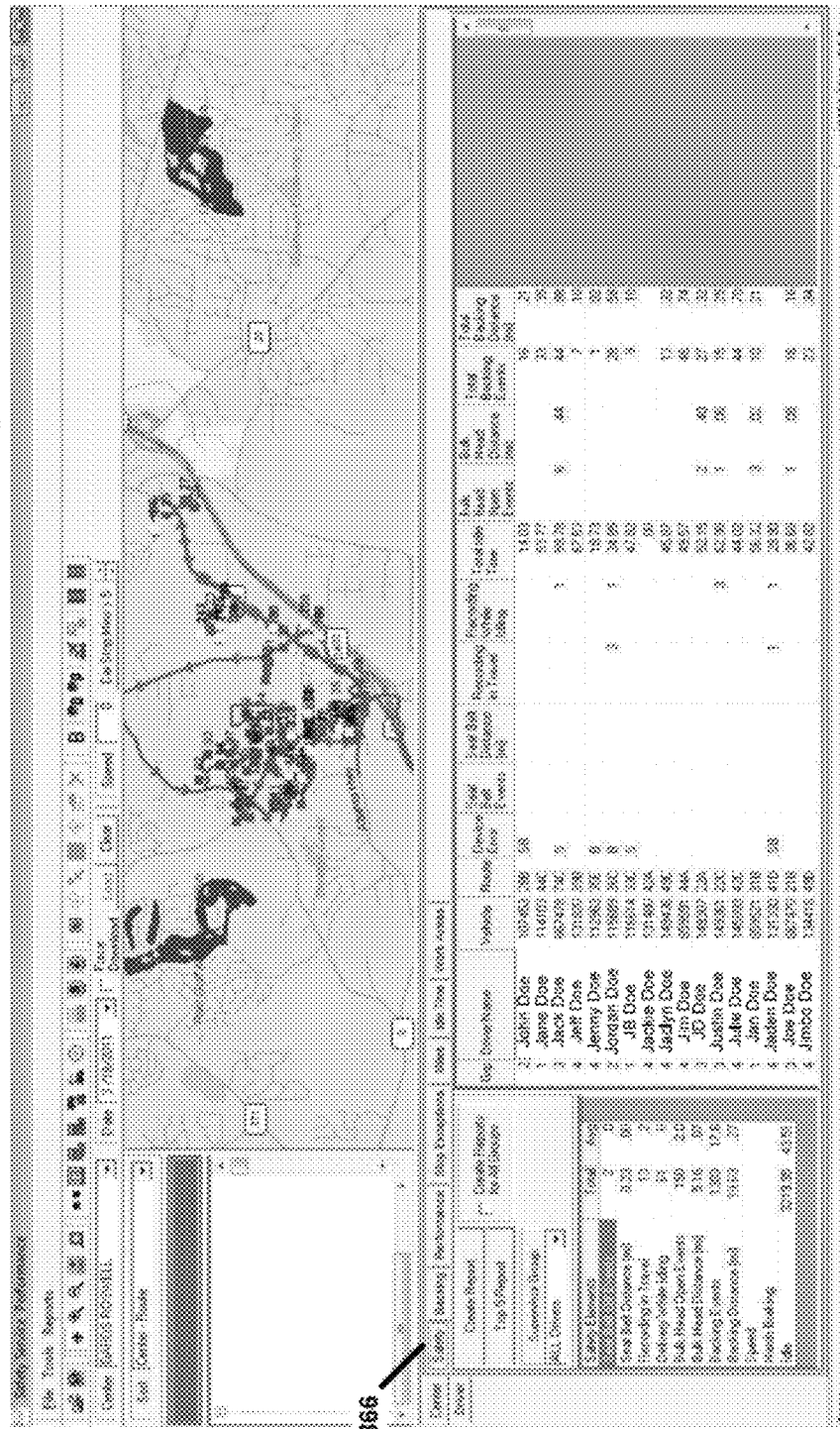


FIG. 42

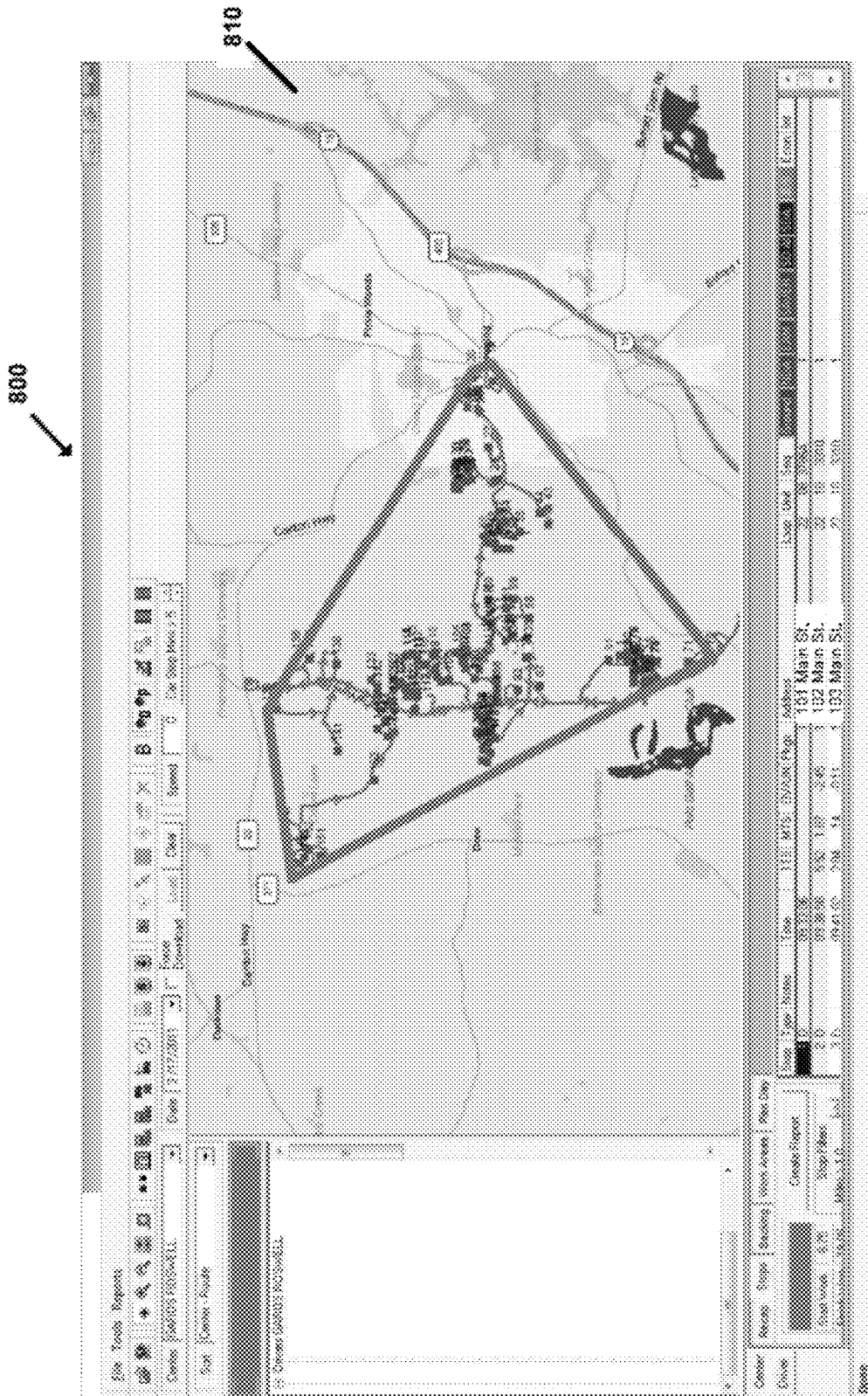


FIG. 43

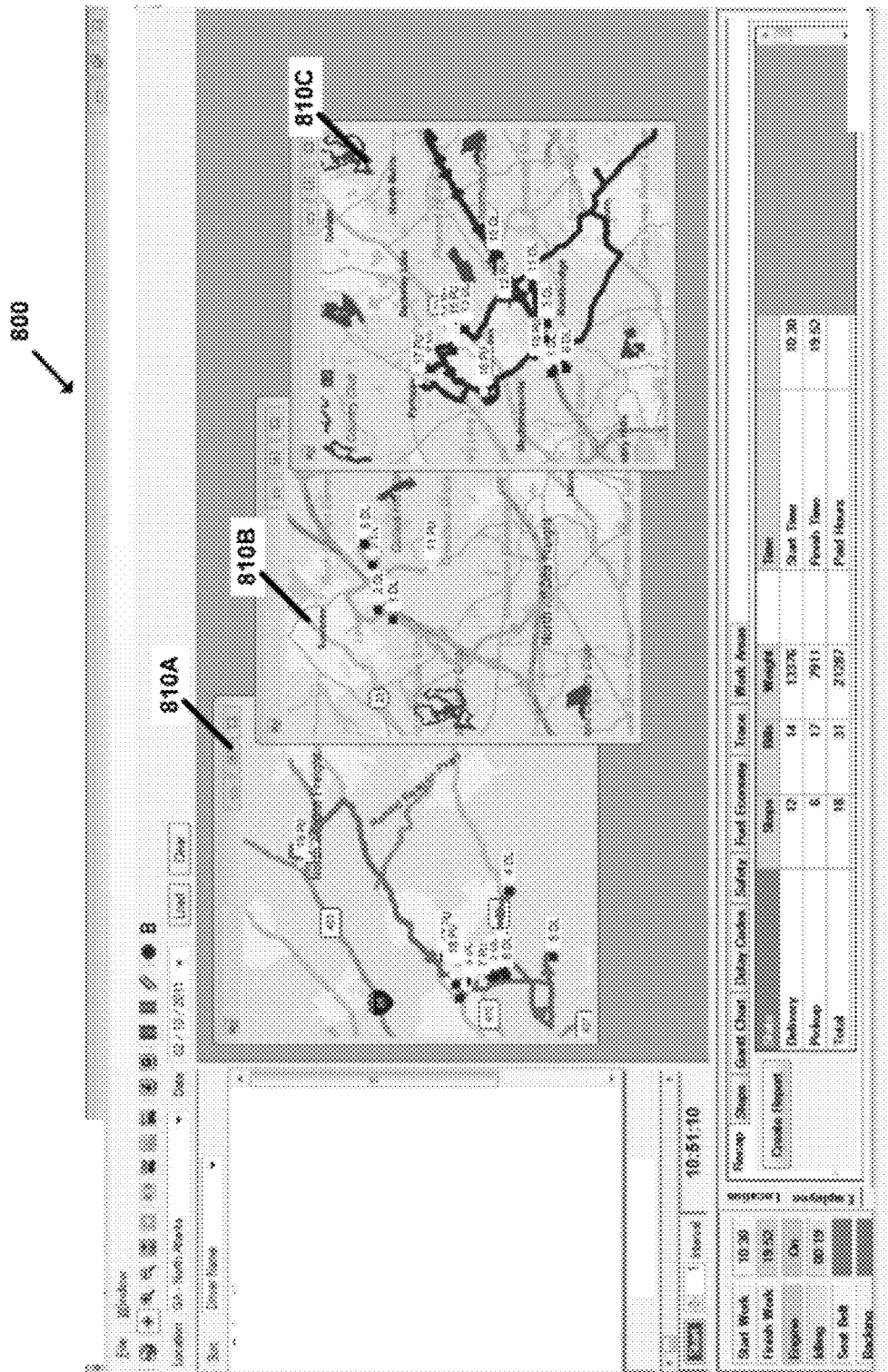


FIG. 44



FIG. 45

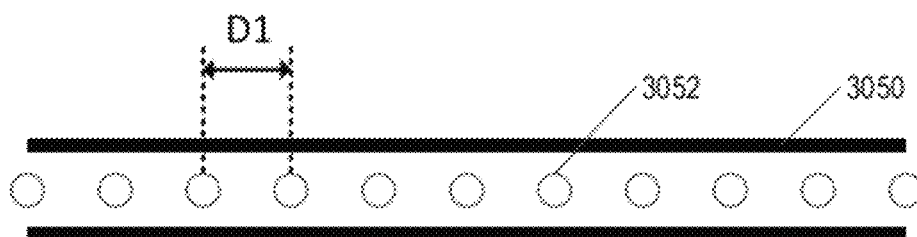


FIG. 46

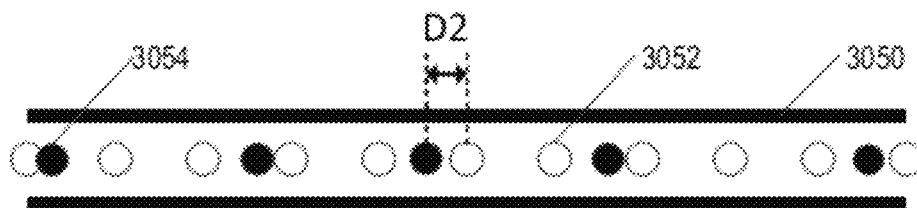


FIG. 47

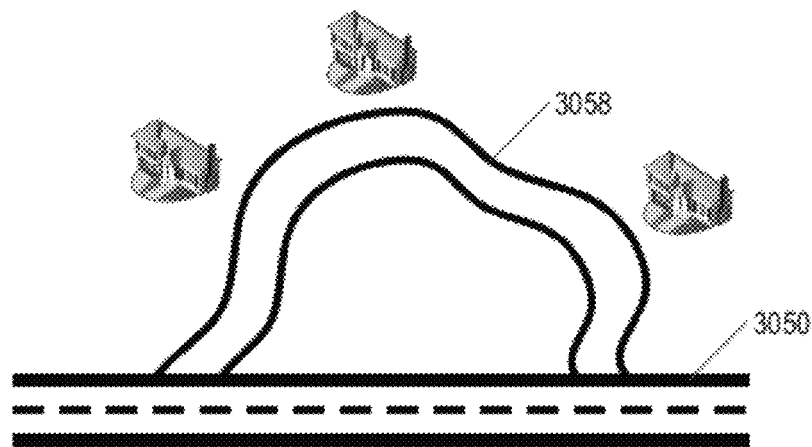


FIG. 48

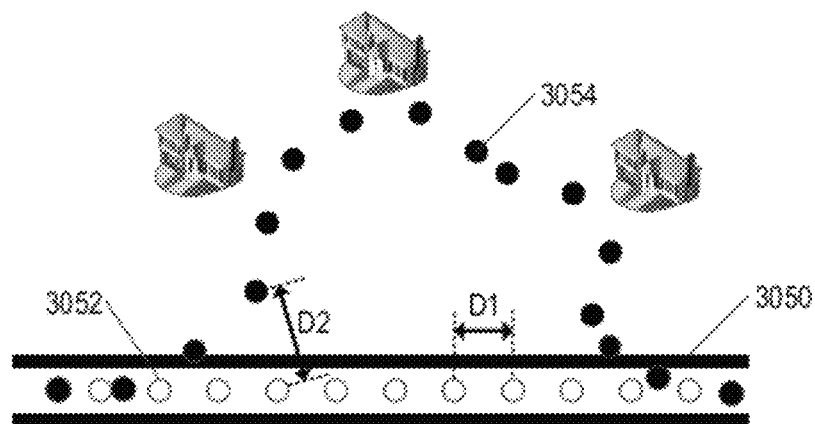


FIG. 49

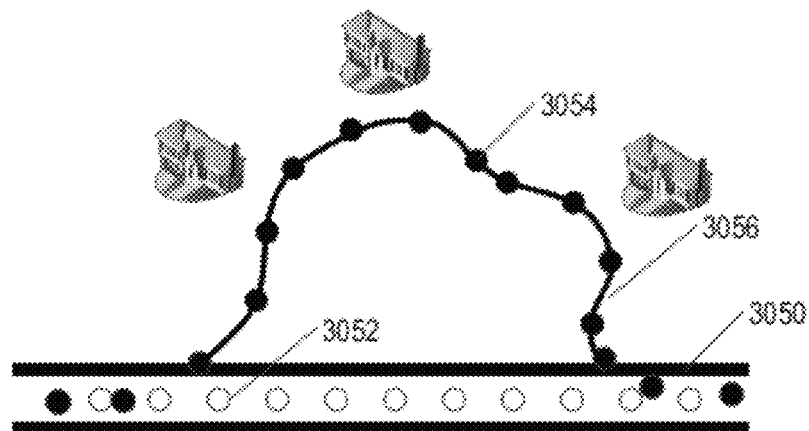


FIG. 50

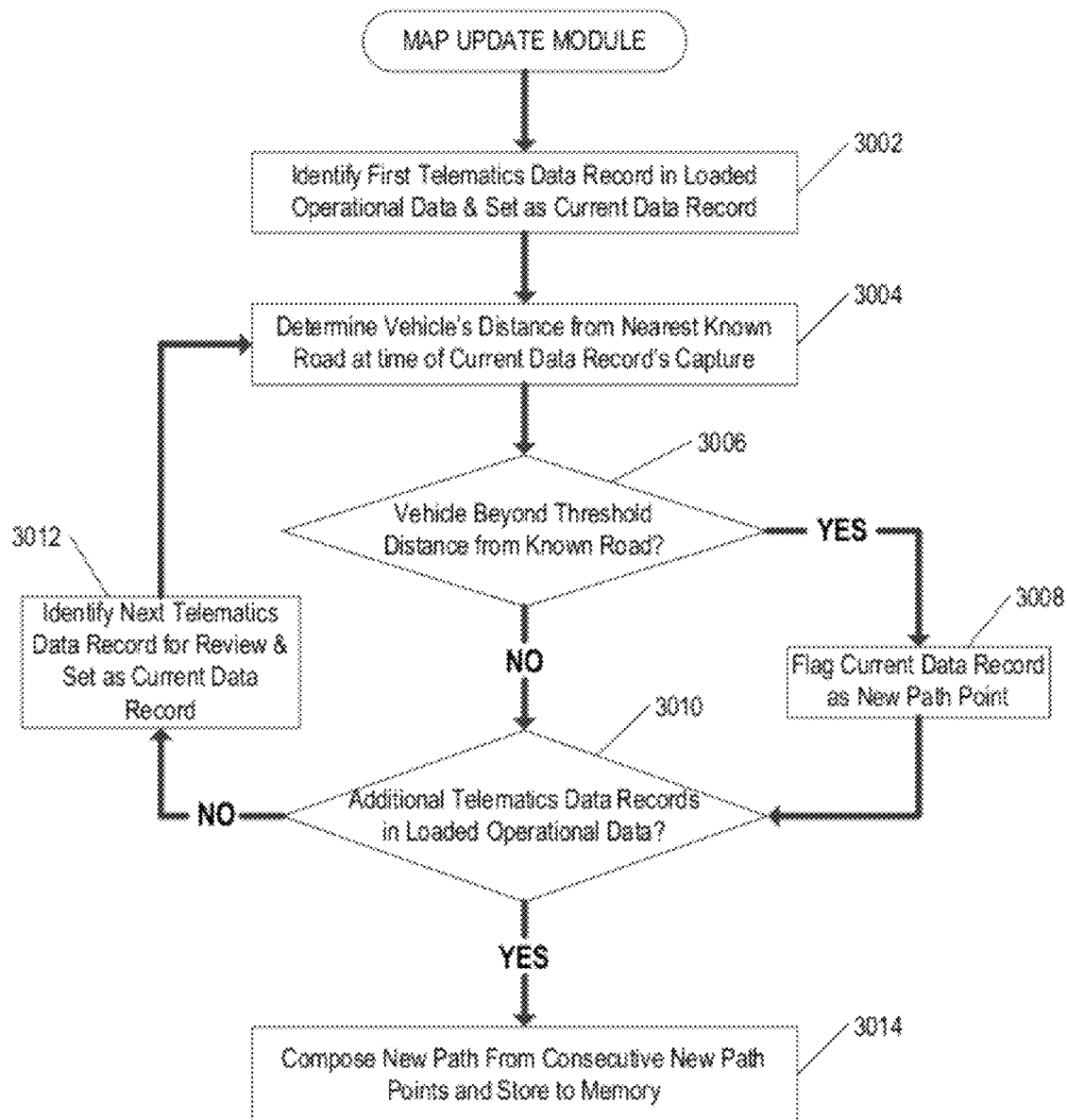


FIG. 51

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ASSESSING VEHICLE HANDLING

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority from U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/470,185 entitled "Efficiency Management Systems and Methods," which was filed on Mar. 31, 2011, and from U.S. Provisional Application No. 61/511,915 entitled "Efficiency Management Systems and Methods," which was filed on Jul. 26, 2011, both of which are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

Various embodiments of the present invention described herein generally relate to efficiency management systems for evaluating various operational efficiencies based on operational data.

2. Description of Related Art

Improving operational efficiency has become an increasingly high priority for many businesses. In particular, the increasing cost of energy resources, such as fuel, and recent trends toward improving environmental sustainability have made reducing the consumption of energy resources essential for many businesses to maintain a competitive advantage in their respective industries. Likewise, volatile economic climates have increased competition in various industry sectors and prompted competing businesses to provide better services at a lower cost. As a result, many businesses are searching for ways to improve the efficiency of their existing employees and staff in order to reduce costs associated with human resources and provide improved service to customers.

As business emphasis on operational efficiency has grown, so too has the development of technology capable of monitoring various operational characteristics. For example, businesses can use GPS (or other GNSS systems) and RFID technology to track the location of people and items and generate data representative of those locations in relation to time. In addition, telematics devices are currently used in vehicles to capture information relating to various vehicle dynamics, such as fuel consumption and location. Similarly, businesses can provide hand held devices (e.g., portable computers, cell phones) to employees to capture information relating to the employee locations and activities in relation to time. Computer systems can also be used to track employee activity independent of location (e.g., systems with time keeping software used in office environments, manufacturing systems used in plants to track and manage a manufacturing process).

Although such technology allows businesses to capture large amounts of operational data reflecting a variety of operational characteristics, many businesses are unable to effectively utilize such data to improve efficiencies. This problem is commonly the result of an inability to effectively translate otherwise overwhelming amounts of data into a format that is meaningful in the context of analyzing a particular efficiency. Thus, there is a need in the art for improved systems and methods for capturing and evaluating operational data in order to improve operational efficiencies in a variety of business contexts.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Various embodiments of the present are directed to a fleet management computer system configured for assessing

vehicle backing. According to various embodiments, the fleet management computer system comprises one or more memory storage areas and one or more processors in communication with the one or more memory storage areas. In various embodiments the one or more processors are, collectively, configured to: receive operational data comprising vehicle telematics data, the vehicle telematics data being indicative of one or more vehicle dynamics for one or more vehicles operated by one or more vehicle operators during one or more time periods; identify, for each of the vehicles, one or more vehicle backing events occurring during the one or more time periods based on the operational data; determine, for each of the identified backing events, one or more backing characteristics of the backing event based on the operational data; and generate a graphical display providing backing information indicative of the one or more backing characteristics for the identified backing events.

In addition, various embodiments of the present invention are directed to a computer readable storage medium comprising computer executable instructions for: receiving operational data comprising vehicle telematics data, the vehicle telematics data being indicative of one or more vehicle dynamics for one or more vehicles operated by one or more vehicle operators during one or more time periods; identifying, for each of the vehicles, one or more vehicle backing events occurring during the one or more time periods based on the operational data; determining, for each of the identified backing events, one or more backing characteristics of the backing event based on the operational data; and generating a graphical display providing backing information indicative of the one or more backing characteristics for the identified backing events.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S)

Having thus described the invention in general terms, reference will now be made to the accompanying drawings, which are not necessarily drawn to scale, and wherein:

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of an efficiency management system according to various embodiments of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a block diagram of a fleet management system according to various embodiments of the present invention;

FIG. 3 is a block diagram of a telematics device according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a block diagram of a block diagram of a portable data acquisition device according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 5 is a schematic block diagram of a central server according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 6 is a flow diagram of steps executed by the telematics device according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 7 is a flow diagram of steps executed by the portable data acquisition device according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 8 shows a start-up view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 9 is a flow diagram of steps executed by the central server according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 10 is a flow diagram of steps executed by a data segmenting module according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 11 shows a Gantt chart of activity segments according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 12 shows a flow diagram of steps executed by an employee recap module according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 13 shows an employee recap view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 14 shows an employee recap report according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 15 shows a flow diagram of steps executed by an employee timecard module according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 16 shows an employee timecard view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 17 shows an employee timecard report according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 18 shows a flow diagram of steps executed by an employee Gantt module according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 19 shows an employee Gantt view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 20 shows a flow diagram of steps executed by an employee delay code module according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 21 shows an employee delay code view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 22 shows a flow diagram of steps executed by an employee fuel economy module according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 23 shows an employee fuel economy view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 24 shows an employee fuel economy report according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 25 shows a flow diagram of steps executed by an employee trace module according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 26 shows an employee trace view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 27 shows a flow diagram of steps executed by a location performance module according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 28 shows a location performance view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 29 shows a flow diagram of steps executed by a location hours module according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 30 shows a location hours view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 31 shows a flow diagram of steps executed by a location idle time module according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 32 shows a location idle time view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 33 shows a location idle time report according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 34 shows a flow diagram of steps executed by a location delay code module according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 35 shows a location delay code view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 36 shows a flow diagram of steps executed by a location stop module according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 37 shows a location stop view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 38 shows a flow diagram of steps executed by a location dispatch profile module according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 39 shows a location dispatch profile view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 40 shows an employee safety view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 41 shows an employee work area view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 42 shows a location safety view of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 43 shows a polygon map selection tool provided on a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 44 shows a multiple window tool provided on a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 45 shows a road traveled by a delivery vehicle according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 46 shows a string of road data points representing the road of FIG. 45 according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 47 shows a string of location data points representing the path of a vehicle along the road of FIG. 45 according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 48 shows an unknown road adjacent the road of FIG. 45 according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 49 shows a string of location data points representing the path of a vehicle along the unknown road according to one embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 50 shows a new path comprised of the location data points of FIG. 49 according to one embodiment of the present invention; and

FIG. 51 shows a flow diagram of steps executed by a map update module according to one embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present inventions now will be described more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which some, but not all embodiments of the inventions are shown. Indeed, these inventions may be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein; rather, these embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will satisfy applicable legal requirements. Like numbers refer to like elements throughout.

Many modifications and other embodiments of the inventions set forth herein will come to mind to one skilled in the art to which these inventions pertain having the benefit of the teachings presented in the foregoing descriptions and the associated drawings. Therefore, it is to be understood that the inventions are not to be limited to the specific embodiments

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disclosed and that modifications and other embodiments are intended to be included within the scope of the appended claims. Although specific terms are employed herein, they are used in a generic and descriptive sense only and not for purposes of limitation.

Overview

According to various embodiments of the present invention, an efficiency management system is provided for evaluating various operational efficiencies based on operational data. FIG. 1 illustrates the system architecture of an efficiency management system 1 according to various embodiments. As shown, the efficiency management system 1 includes one or more data sources 2 and a central server 3. The data sources 2 may be, for example, devices configured for capturing and communicating operational data indicative of one or more operational characteristics (e.g., a telematics device capturing telematics data from a vehicle, a service device capturing service data from vehicle operators, a computer tracking the activity of one or more users). The data sources 2 are configured to communicate with the central server 3 by sending and receiving operational data over a network 4 (e.g., the Internet, an Intranet, or other suitable network). The central server 3 is configured to process and evaluate operational data received from the data sources 2 in accordance with user input received via a user interface (e.g., a graphical user interface provided on a local or remote computer). For example, the central server 3 may be configured for segmenting operational data according to various operational activities, identifying various undesirable or inefficient activities or occurrences based on the operational data, and/or generating a graphical presentation based on the operational data that displays operational activities in the context of other efficiency-indicative data.

As discussed in greater detail below, the components and general system architecture of the efficiency management system 1 illustrated in FIG. 1 may be adapted for use in specific environments. For example, in certain embodiments, the efficiency management system is configured as a “fleet management system” adapted for evaluating and managing a fleet of vehicles (e.g., a fleet of delivery vehicles operated by a shipping entity, a fleet of taxis or buses operated by a private or public transportation entity). In such embodiments, the data sources may comprise telematics devices positioned on various vehicles in the fleet, as well as mobile service devices operated at least in part by operators of the fleet vehicles. The central server may be configured for evaluating telematics data received from the telematics devices and service data received from the service devices in order to assess driver efficiency, vehicle efficiency, and other logistical efficiencies. In addition, the central server may be configured for providing graphical presentations of telematics data and/or service data in efficiency-indicative formats, as well as for updating GPS-based maps based on vehicle telematics data.

In other embodiments, the efficiency management system is configured as a “mobile personnel management system” adapted for evaluating and managing human resource efficiencies. For example, in one embodiment, the mobile personnel management system is configured for evaluating efficiencies of mobile employees or staff (e.g., employees at an airport or large store) based at least in part on data indicative of employee location and activity in relation to time. In such embodiments, the data sources may comprise location-indicating devices carried by various employees (e.g., GPS or RFID-based devices). The central server may be configured for evaluating data received from the location-indicating devices in order to determine whether employees are working efficiently based at least in part on their location at various times.

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In other embodiments, the efficiency management system is configured as a “personnel work management system” adapted for evaluating employee or staff efficiencies based on data indicative of activity and time (e.g., the efficiency of lawyers in relation to certain tasks). In such embodiments, the data sources may comprise task-indicating devices (e.g., a computer with time-keeping software), while the central server is configured for evaluating data received from the task-indicating devices in order to assess employee efficiency in relation to various tasks or activities.

The following description provides a detailed explanation of certain embodiments of the efficiency management system, including the aforementioned fleet management system, mobile personnel management system, and personnel work management system. As will be appreciated from the detailed description herein, the various components and features of these systems may be modified and adapted to assess efficiencies in a variety of operational contexts.

Fleet Management System

According to various embodiments, a fleet management system is provided for capturing and storing operational data for a fleet of vehicles, and for evaluating the operational data in order to assess various fleet efficiencies and improve the overall operational efficiency of the fleet. The fleet management system may be used, for example, by a shipping entity (e.g., United Parcel Service, Inc., FedEx Corp., or the United States Postal Service) to evaluate the efficiency of a fleet of vehicles used to deliver freight or packages. In particular, the fleet management system may be configured to capture operational data from the fleet—including telematics data from fleet vehicles and service data from service devices—and evaluate the captured operational data in order to identify potentially inefficient or undesirable driver behavior, and to provide a unique graphical presentation of the telematics data and service data indicative of identified behavior that allows system users to understand the context in which the behavior occurred. As described in more detail below, these system attributes allow the fleet management system to assist vehicle fleet managers, such as shipping entities, in improving the operating efficiency of their fleet.

System Architecture

A fleet management system 5 according to various embodiments is shown in FIG. 2. In the illustrated embodiment, the fleet management system 5 comprises a vehicle telematics device 102 positioned on a delivery vehicle 100, a portable data acquisition device 110, and a central server 120. The telematics device 102, portable data acquisition device 110, and central server 120 are configured to communicate with each other via a communications network 130 (e.g., the Internet, an Intranet, a cellular network, or other suitable network). In addition, the telematics device 102, portable data acquisition device 110, and central server 120 are configured for storing data to an accessible central server database (not shown) located on, or remotely from, the central server 120.

In the description provided herein, the fleet management system 5 may be configured for managing and evaluating the operation of a large fleet of delivery vehicles. As such, in various embodiments, the fleet management system 5 may further comprise a plurality of telematics devices 102 and portable data acquisition devices 110, each being associated with one of a plurality of delivery vehicles 100. While the detailed description of the fleet management system’s components is provided below with reference to individual components or devices, it will be understood from the description herein that various embodiments of the fleet management system 5 may include a plurality of the components each configured as described below. For example, large-scale

embodiments of the fleet management system may include thousands of telematics devices **102** and portable data acquisition devices **110** each capturing data from a unique delivery vehicle **100** or driver and transmitting the captured data to multiple servers **120**. In addition, as will be appreciated from the description herein, the fleet management system **5** may be adapted for managing and evaluating a fleet of vehicles in a variety of contexts, such as a fleet of taxis, buses, and other service vehicles. Accordingly, the telematics device **102** represents one embodiment of a telematics device that may be adapted for providing telematics data for a fleet of vehicles, and the portable data acquisition device **110** represents one embodiment of a service device that may be adapted for providing service data for a fleet of vehicles.

In the illustrated embodiment of FIG. 2, the delivery vehicle **100** includes a plurality of vehicle sensors configured for generating telematics data indicative of various vehicle dynamics, such as engine ignition, engine speed, vehicle speed, vehicle location, and the status of various vehicle components. The vehicle sensors may be controlled by the telematics device **102**, which may be positioned on or within the vehicle **100**. In controlling the various vehicle sensors, the telematics device **102** is able to capture and store telematics data from the various vehicle sensors according to a programmed logic and associate the captured telematics data with contextual data (e.g., date, time, location). The captured telematics data and contextual data may then be transmitted by the telematics device **102** directly to the central server **120** via the network **130**, or to the portable data acquisition device **110** (which may later transmit the data to the central server **120** itself).

The portable data acquisition device **110** is a handheld electronic device—such as a pocket PC, delivery information acquisition device (“DIAD”), laptop, or smartphone—that may be operated by a driver of the delivery vehicle **100**. The portable data acquisition device **110** may be configured for receiving and displaying delivery information received from the central server **120** (e.g., delivery instructions pertaining to the delivery of freight or packages) and may be configured for receiving and storing telematics data received from the telematics device **102** as necessary. In addition, the portable data acquisition device **110** is configured for receiving and storing service data generated by user input (e.g., service data input by a driver via a user interface indicating the status of a particular delivery or driver activity). Furthermore, the portable data acquisition device **110** is configured for transmitting any received data to the central server **120** and/or telematics device **102** over the network **130**.

According to various embodiments, the central server **120** is generally configured for evaluating operational data (e.g., telematics data, service data) for a fleet of vehicles in order to assess various fleet efficiencies and aid fleet management system **5** users in managing the fleet. As shown in FIG. 2, the central server **120** may be configured for receiving and storing telematics data from the telematics device **102** and service data from the portable data acquisition device **110** over the network **130**. By collecting such operational data over a period of time from various telematics devices **102** and portable data acquisition devices **110**—which may be associated with a fleet of vehicles **100** and their respective drivers—the central server **120** is able to amass operational data reflecting the overall operations of the fleet. As will be described in greater detail below, the central server **120** may be configured for evaluating telematics data and service data together, presenting the data to a user in the context of one another, and evaluating the data in a variety of ways in order to improve the operating efficiency of the fleet of vehicles **100**.

The various components of the fleet management system **5** are now described in detail below according to various embodiments.

Network

According to various embodiments of the present invention, the communications network **130** may be capable of supporting communication in accordance with any one or more of a number of second-generation (2G), 2.5G and/or third-generation (3G) mobile communication protocols or the like. More particularly, the network **130** may be capable of supporting communication in accordance with 2G wireless communication protocols IS-136 (TDMA), GSM, and IS-95 (CDMA). Also, for example, the network **130** may be capable of supporting communication in accordance with 2.5G wireless communication protocols GPRS, Enhanced Data GSM Environment (EDGE), or the like. In addition, for example, the network **130** can be capable of supporting communication in accordance with 3G wireless communication protocols such as Universal Mobile Telephone System (UMTS) network employing Wideband Code Division Multiple Access (WCDMA) radio access technology. As yet another example, the network **130** may support communication between the fleet management system **5** components (e.g., the telematics device **102** and portable data acquisition device **110**) in accordance with techniques such as, for example, radio frequency (RF), Bluetooth™, infrared (IrDA), or any of a number of different wireless networking techniques, including Wireless LAN (WLAN) techniques.

Although the telematics device **102**, portable data acquisition device **110**, and central server **120** are illustrated in FIG. 2 as communicating with one another over the same network **130**, these devices may likewise communicate over separate networks. For example, while the telematics device **102** may communicate with the portable data acquisition device **110** over a wireless personal area network (WPAN) (e.g., using Bluetooth™ techniques), the telematics device **102** and/or portable data acquisition device **110** may communicate with the central server **120** over a wireless wide area network (WWAN) (e.g., in accordance with EDGE, or some other 2.5G, 3G, or 4G wireless communication protocol).

Vehicle Sensors

As noted above, in various embodiments the delivery vehicle **100** is equipped with a variety of vehicle sensors capable of generating vehicle telematics data. For example, in one embodiment, the vehicle **100** includes sensors configured to make measurements and capture data pertaining to the following vehicle dynamics: engine ignition (e.g., on or off), engine speed (e.g., RPM and idle time events), vehicle speed (e.g., miles per hour), seat belt status (e.g., engaged or disengaged), vehicle heading (e.g., degrees from center), vehicle backing (e.g., moving in reverse or not moving in reverse), vehicle door status (e.g., open or closed), vehicle handle status (e.g., grasped or not grasped by a driver), vehicle location (e.g., latitude and longitude), distance traveled (e.g., miles between two points), throttle position, brake pedal position, parking brake position, distance or time since last maintenance, and various engine measurements (e.g., engine oil pressure, engine temperature, and engine faults). In various other embodiments, the delivery vehicle **100** may include any combination of the above-referenced sensors (and additional sensors known in the art) depending on the operational data desired by a fleet management system **5** user.

According to various embodiments, the vehicle sensors disposed within the delivery vehicle **100** comprise on/off sensors, which register a voltage amount that corresponds with an on/off condition. For example, in one embodiment, a seat belt sensor may register 0V when the seat belt is dis-

gaged and 12V when the seat belt is engaged. Such on/off sensors are sufficient for measuring vehicle dynamics in which operational data is needed to indicate two conditions, such as a seat belt, which is either engaged or disengaged at all times. As another example, one or more door position sensors may be connected, for example, to the driver side, passenger side, and bulkhead doors, and may register 0V when the door with which the sensor is associated is in an open position, and 12V when the door is closed. As another example, an ignition sensor may register 0V when the vehicle **100** is turned off and 12V when the vehicle **100** is turned on. As yet another example, a backing light sensor may register 0V when the vehicles' backing lights are off and 12V when the vehicle's backing lights are on. As yet another example, the engine idle sensor may be configured to generate 0V when the engine speed is above idle and 12V when the engine is idling.

In addition, according to various embodiments, the vehicle sensors disposed within the delivery vehicles **100** also comprise variable voltage sensors, which may be used to register variations in voltage reflecting a certain vehicle dynamic. For example, the engine speed sensor may detect the speed of the engine in revolutions per minute (RPM) by registering a particular voltage that corresponds to a particular RPM reading. The voltage of the sensor may increase or decrease proportionately with increases or decreases in the engine RPM. As another example, oil pressure sensors may detect the vehicle's oil pressure by registering a particular voltage that corresponds to a particular oil pressure. Other examples of variable voltage sensors may include temperature sensors, vehicle speed sensors, vehicle heading sensors, and vehicle location sensors.

The exemplary vehicle sensors described above may be configured, for example, to operate in any fashion suitable to generate computer-readable data that may be captured, stored, and transmitted by the telematics device **102**. In addition, while certain sensors are preferably disposed at particular locations on or within the vehicles **100** (e.g., handle sensors at the vehicle handles), other sensors may be disposed anywhere within the vehicle, such as within the telematics device **102** itself (e.g., a location sensor).

Telematics Device

As noted above, according to various embodiments, the telematics device **102** is configured to control various vehicle sensors positioned on an associated delivery vehicle **100**, capture vehicle telematics data generated by those sensors, and transmit the captured telematics data to the portable data acquisition device **110** and/or central server **120** via one of several communication methods. According to various embodiments, the various functions of the telematics device **102** described herein may be generally understood as being performed by one or more of the telematics device **102** components described below.

FIG. 3 illustrates a detailed schematic block diagram of an exemplary telematics device **102** according to one embodiment. In the illustrated embodiment, the telematics device **102** includes the following components: a processor **201**, a location-determining device or sensor **202** (e.g., GPS sensor), a real-time clock **203**, J-Bus protocol architecture **204**, an electronic control module (ECM) **205**, a port **206** for receiving data from vehicle sensors **410** located in one of the delivery vehicles **100** (shown in FIG. 2), a communication port **207** for receiving instruction data, a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag **212**, a power source **208**, a data radio **209** for communication with a WWAN, a WLAN and/or a WPAN, FLASH, DRAM, and NVRAM memory modules **210**, and a programmable logic controller (PLC) **211**. In an alternative embodiment, the RFID tag **212**, the location sensor **202**, and

the PLC **211** may be located in the delivery vehicle **100**, external from the telematics device **102**. In other embodiments, the processes described herein as being carried out by a single processor **201** may be accomplished by multiple processors. In various embodiments, the telematics device **102** may not include certain of the components described above, and may include any other suitable components in addition to, or in place of, those described above. For example, the telematics device **102** may include various types of communications components other than those described above (e.g., to support new or improved communications techniques).

In one embodiment, the location sensor **202** may be one of several components available in the telematics device **102**. The location sensor **202** may be, for example, a GPS-based sensor compatible with a low Earth orbit (LEO) satellite system, medium Earth orbit satellite system, or a Department of Defense (DOD) satellite system. Alternatively, triangulation may be used in connection with various cellular towers positioned at various locations throughout a geographic area in order to determine the location of the delivery vehicle **100** and/or its driver. The location sensor **202** may be used to receive position, time, and speed data. In addition, the location sensor **202** may be configured to detect when its delivery vehicle **100** has entered or exited a GPS-defined geographic area (e.g., a geo-fenced area). As will be appreciated from the description herein, more than one location sensor **202** may be utilized, and other similar techniques may likewise be used to collect geo-location information associated with the delivery vehicle **100** and/or its driver.

In one embodiment, the ECM **205** with J-Bus protocol **204** may be one of several components available in the telematics device **102**. The ECM **205**, which may be a scalable and subservient device to the telematics device **102**, may have data processor capability to decode and store analog and digital inputs and ECM data streams from vehicle systems and sensors **410**, **420**. The ECM **205** may further have data processing capability to collect and present vehicle data to the J-Bus **204** (which may allow transmittal to the telematics device **102**), and output standard vehicle diagnostic codes when received from a vehicle's J-Bus-compatible on-board controllers **420** or vehicle sensors **410**.

In one embodiment, the instruction data receiving port **207** may be one of several components available in the telematics device **102**. Embodiments of the instruction data receiving port **207** may include an Infrared Data Association (IrDA) communication port, a data radio, and/or a serial port. The instruction receiving data port **207** may receive instructions for the telematics device **102**. These instructions may be specific to the vehicle **100** in which the telematics device **102** is installed, specific to the geographical area in which the vehicle **100** will be traveling, or specific to the function the vehicle **100** serves within the fleet.

In one embodiment, a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag **212** may be one of several components available for use with the telematics device **102**. One embodiment of the RFID tag **212** may include an active RFID tag, which comprises at least one of the following: (1) an internal clock; (2) a memory; (3) a microprocessor; and (4) at least one input interface for connecting with sensors located in the vehicle **100** or the telematics device **102**. Another embodiment of the RFID tag **212** may be a passive RFID tag. One or more RFID tags **212** may be internal to the telematics device **102**, wired to the telematics device **102**, and/or proximate to the telematics device **102**. Each RFID tag **212** may communicate wirelessly with RFID interrogators within a certain geographical range of each other. RFID interrogators may be located external to

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the vehicle **100** and/or within the portable data acquisition device **110** that can be carried in and out of the vehicle **100** by the vehicle operator.

In one embodiment, the data radio **209** may be one of several components available in the telematics device **102**. The data radio **209** may be configured to communicate with a WWAN, WLAN, or WPAN, or any combination thereof. In one embodiment, a WPAN data radio provides connectivity between the telematics device **102** and peripheral devices used in close proximity to the vehicle **100**, such as the portable data acquisition device **110**, a local computer, and/or a cellular telephone. As mentioned above, in one embodiment of the invention, a WPAN, such as, for example, a Bluetooth™ network (IEEE 802.15.1 standard compatible) may be used to transfer information between the telematics device **102** and the portable data acquisition device **110**. In other embodiments, WPANs compatible with the IEEE 802 family of standards may be used. In one embodiment, the data radio **209** may be a Bluetooth™ serial port adapter that communicates wirelessly via WPAN to a Bluetooth™ chipset located in the portable data acquisition device **110**, or other peripheral device. In addition, a Media Access Control (MAC) address, which is a code unique to each Bluetooth™-enabled device that identifies the device, similar to an Internet protocol address identifying a computer in communication with the Internet, can be communicated to other devices in communication with the WPAN, which may assist in identifying and allowing communication among vehicles, cargo, and portable data acquisition devices equipped with Bluetooth™ devices. As discussed above with regard to FIG. 2, and as one of ordinary skill in the art will readily recognize, other wireless protocols exist (e.g., cellular technology) and can likewise be used in association with embodiments of the present invention.

As described in greater detail below, in various embodiments, the telematics device **102** may be configured to capture and store telematics data from the vehicle sensors **410** at predefined time intervals and in response to detecting the occurrence of one or more of a plurality of predefined vehicle events. Generally, a vehicle event may be defined as a condition relating to any parameter or combination of parameters measurable by the one or more vehicle sensors **410** (e.g., the engine idling, vehicle speed exceeding a certain threshold, etc.). As such, the telematics device **102** may be configured to continuously monitor the various vehicle sensors **410** and detect when the data being generated by one or more of the vehicle sensors **410** indicates one or more of the plurality of predefined vehicle events. In response to detecting a vehicle event, the telematics device **102** captures data from all of the vehicle sensors **410** or a particular subset of the vehicle sensors **410** associated with the detected vehicle event.

As an example, the telematics device **102** may be configured to recognize the occurrence of a first vehicle event (e.g., the vehicle's **100** engine being turned on or off), a second vehicle event (e.g., the vehicle's **100** speed exceeding a certain threshold), and a third vehicle event (e.g., a seat belt in the vehicle **100** being engaged or disengaged). In one embodiment, the telematics device **102** is configured to capture and store telematics data from all of the vehicle sensors **410** in response to detecting any of the first vehicle event, the second vehicle event, and the third vehicle event. In another embodiment, the telematics device **102** is further configured such that the first vehicle event is associated with a first subset of vehicle sensors (e.g., the seat belt sensor and location sensor), the second vehicle event is associated with a second subset of vehicle sensors (e.g., a vehicle speed sensor and location sensor), and the third vehicle event is associated with a third

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subset of vehicle sensors (e.g., a seat belt sensor, engine speed sensor, and vehicle speed sensor). Accordingly, in this embodiment, the telematics device **102** will capture and store telematics data from the first set of vehicle sensors after detecting the first vehicle event, the second set of vehicle sensors after detecting the second vehicle event, and the third set of vehicle sensors after detecting the third vehicle event.

The vehicle events programmed for recognition by the telematics device **102** can be defined in a variety of ways. As will be appreciated from the description herein, the telematics device **102** may be configured to capture telematics data in response to vehicle events defined by any combination of conditions sensed by the vehicle sensors **410**. These predefined vehicle events may be stored, for example, on the telematics device's memory modules **210**, or on another data storage medium accessible by the telematics device's processor **201**.

For example, in various embodiments, the telematics device **102** is configured to recognize vehicle events characterized by data generated by on/off vehicle sensors. These vehicle events may include: (a) a vehicle's engine being turned on, (b) a vehicle's engine being turned off, (c) a vehicle door opening, (d) a vehicle door closing, (e) a vehicle door being locked, (f) a vehicle door being unlocked, (g) a vehicle's reverse gear being selected, (h) a vehicle's one or more forward drive gears being selected, (i) a vehicle's neutral or park gear being selected, (j) a vehicle's parking break being engaged, (k) a vehicle's seat belt being engaged, (l) a vehicle's seat belt being disengaged, and any other event definable by a parameter measured by an on/off sensor.

In addition, various embodiments of the telematics device **102** are also configured to recognize vehicle events characterized by data generated by variable voltage vehicles sensors or other types of dynamic vehicle sensors. These vehicle events may include (a) a vehicle's speed increasing from standstill to a non-zero value, (b) a vehicle's speed decreasing from a non-zero value to standstill, (c) a vehicle's engine speed exceeding a certain threshold, (d) a vehicle's engine speed dropping below a certain threshold, (e) a vehicle beginning to move in a reverse direction, (f) a vehicle ceasing to move in a reverse direction, (g) a vehicle's heading reaching a threshold away from center, (h) a vehicle's engine temperature exceeding a certain threshold, (i) a vehicle's gas level falling below a certain level, (j) a vehicle's speed exceeding a certain threshold, and any other event definable by a parameter measured by a variable voltage or other dynamic sensor.

In addition, various embodiments of the telematics device **102** are also configured to recognize vehicle events characterized by data generated by GPS-sensors or other location sensing devices. These vehicle events may include (a) a vehicle moving into a geo-fenced area (e.g., a geo-fenced area defining a shipping hub, delivery area, or other work area), (b) a vehicle moving out of a geo-fenced area (e.g., a geo-fenced area defining a shipping hub, delivery area, or other work area), (c) a vehicle traveling onto a predefined route (e.g., a GPS-based road route), (d) a vehicle traveling off of a predefined route, (e) a vehicle traveling onto a known road (e.g., a road recognized by a GPS device), (f) a vehicle traveling off of a known road (e.g., exceeding a certain predefined distance from a known road), and any other event definable by a parameter measured by a location sensing device.

According to various embodiments, the telematics device **102** may be also configured to recognize multiple unique vehicle events based on a single varying parameter measured by one of the vehicle sensors **410**. As one example, the telematics device **102** may be configured such that a first vehicle event is detected anytime the vehicle's speed begins

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to exceed 50 miles-per-hour, while a second vehicle event is detected anytime the vehicle's speed begins to exceed 70 miles-per-hour. As such, the telematics device **102** may capture telematics data from vehicle sensors **410** in response to the vehicle **100** accelerating past 50 miles-per-hour, and again as the vehicle **100** accelerates past 70 miles-per-hour. In addition, as noted earlier, the telematics device **102** may capture telematics data from unique subsets of vehicle sensors based on the varying measurements of vehicle speed (e.g., a first subset of vehicles sensors associated with the 50-mph vehicle event and a second subset of vehicle sensors associated with the 70-mph vehicle event). This concept may also be applied to other variable parameters sensed by vehicle sensors, such as vehicle heading (e.g., various threshold degrees from center), engine speed (e.g., various threshold RPM measurements), and vehicle distance from a predefined path (e.g., threshold value for feet from a known road, vehicle route, or other GPS-based geographic location).

In addition, vehicle events may be defined by a combination of conditions indicated by various vehicle sensors **410**. For example, in certain embodiments, the telematics device **102** may be configured to detect instances of stationary vehicle engine idling (e.g., where the engine is on and the vehicle is not moving) based on a combination of data from a vehicle engine sensor and a vehicle speed sensor. In such embodiments, a first vehicle event is defined as the vehicle **100** being turned on and beginning to idle (e.g., instances in which the vehicle sensors **410** indicate the vehicle's engine is turned on and the vehicle speed is zero), a second vehicle event is defined as the vehicle **100** beginning to move and thereby ceasing to idle (e.g., instances in which the vehicle sensors **410** indicate the vehicle's engine is on and the vehicle's speed has increased from zero to a non-zero value), a third vehicle event is defined as the vehicle **100** slowing to a stop and beginning to idle again (e.g., any instance in which the vehicle sensors **410** indicate the vehicle's engine is on and the vehicle's speed has decreased from a non-zero value to zero), and a fourth vehicle event is defined as the vehicle **100** being turned off and again ceasing to idle (e.g., any instance in which the vehicle sensors **410** indicate the vehicle's engine is turned off and the vehicle speed is zero). As a result, in this embodiment, vehicle events are detected and telematics data is captured at the beginning and end of every period during which the vehicle's engine is idling. In various embodiments, the telematics device **102** captures every period of engine idling for each delivery vehicle. Other examples of vehicle events defined by a combination of conditions include (a) where a vehicle seat belt is engaged or disengaged while the vehicle is idling, (b) where a vehicle exceeds a certain speed while located within a certain geographic area associated with the certain speed, and (c) a vehicle door opening or closing while the engine is on.

In addition to capturing telematics data in response to detected vehicle events, the telematics device **102** may be further configured to automatically capture telematics data from the vehicle sensors **410** at predefined time intervals. For example, in one embodiment, the telematics device **102** is programmed with a threshold data capture time (e.g., 10 seconds, one minute) and is configured to automatically capture telematics data from the vehicle sensors **410** where no vehicle events are detected for a period exceeding the defined time. This configuration ensures that the threshold data capture time is the longest possible duration between telematics data being collected and ensures that the vehicle **100** is continuously monitored even through periods where none of the predefined vehicle events are detected. As will be appreciated from the description herein, the threshold data capture time

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may be defined as any period of time according to the preference of a fleet management system **5** user.

Although the telematics device **102** is described above as capturing telematics data in response to detected vehicle events, or in response to a certain elapsed time, the telematics device **102** may also be configured to capture telematics data in response to other occurrences. For example, the telematics device **102** may be triggered remotely from the central server **120** or portable data acquisition device **110** to capture telematics data from all, or particular, vehicle sensors at any time. For example, in one embodiment, a driver may use a particular button or enter a particular command on the portable data acquisition device's **110** user interface in order to trigger the capture of telematics data by the telematics device **102**. In another embodiment, the portable data acquisition device **110** may be configured to notify the telematics device of particular delivery events in order to trigger the telematics device **102** to capture of telematics data.

As noted above, in response to a triggering event—such as a defined vehicle event or elapsed threshold data capture time—the telematics device **102** captures telematics data from the vehicle sensors **410**. In one embodiment, the telematics device **102** is configured to store the captured telematics data in fields of one or more data records, each field representing a unique measurement or other data from a unique vehicle sensor. As the telematics device **102** continues to capture telematics data in response to triggering events, multiple records of data comprising multiples sets of concurrently captured telematics data are amassed. The captured telematics data may be initially stored, for example, in the telematics devices memory modules **201**, in another data storage component of the telematics device **102**, or in a remote location (e.g., a cloud database).

In various embodiments, after capturing data from any of the vehicle sensors **410**, the telematics device **102** may be further configured to concurrently capture and store contextual data. The contextual data may include, for example, the date (e.g., 12/30/10) and time (e.g., 13:24) the data was captured, the vehicle from which the data was captured (e.g., a vehicle identification number such as 16234), the driver of the vehicle from which the data was captured at the time it was captured (e.g., John Q. Doe), and/or a logged reason for the data capture (e.g., a code indicating a detected vehicle event or indicating that the predefined time interval had elapsed). The contextual data may be captured, for example, from various telematics device components (e.g., an internal clock) and from data stored on the telematics device **102** (e.g., current driver name, current vehicle id, or various vehicle event codes). Further, the telematics device **102** may be configured to associate the captured telematics data with the captured contextual data in order to ensure concurrently captured telematics data and contextual data are linked. For example, in one embodiment, the telematics device **102** stores concurrently captured telematics data and contextual data in the same data record or records.

In various embodiments, a driver may be required to enter his or her driver ID number (or name) and vehicle id number at the beginning of each day (e.g., using the portable data acquisition device **110** in communication with the telematics device **102**) in order to enable the telematics device **102** to associate telematics data captured that day with accurate contextual data. In other embodiments, the telematics device **102** may be programmed remotely (e.g., from the central server **120** over the network **130**) such that it is associated with the appropriate driver and vehicle information. According to various embodiments, the contextual data may be formatted in any computer-readable and transmittable data format. For

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example, in one embodiment, the contextual data is metadata. As the telematics data captured from the various vehicle sensors **410** is associated with the captured contextual data, the central server **120** will later be able to associate the telematics data with corresponding service data (e.g., based on time, driver, and/or vehicle), as well as search and identify stored telematics data based on—for example—a particular date, time, vehicle, driver, and/or vehicle event.

As noted above, the telematics device **102** is also configured to transmit captured telematics data and contextual data to the portable data acquisition device **110** and/or the central server **120**. According to various embodiments, the captured data may be transmitted using any of the communication methods or protocols described herein, as well as various other methods and protocols known in the art. For example, the telematics device **102** may be configured to first attempt to establish a connection with the central server **120** (e.g., via a wireless signal). If a successful connection is made, the telematics device **102** will transfer captured data to the central server **120**. However, if a successful connection cannot be made, the telematics device may be configured to alternatively transfer data to the portable data acquisition device **110** (e.g., via a wireless signal or USB connection). In other embodiments, the telematics device **102** may be configured to always transfer data to the portable data acquisition device **110**, even where the data is also transmitted to the central server **120**.

According to various embodiments, the defined vehicle events that trigger the telematics device **102** to capture and store telematics data, the sensors **410** from which telematics data are captured, and the intervals defined for capturing and storing data when no vehicle events are detected each may impact the effectiveness with which the fleet management system **5** is able to evaluate the captured telematics data. For example, capturing data from a large number of vehicle sensors at a high frequency may allow the fleet management system **5** to analyze the telematics data with greater accuracy. This could be accomplished, for example, by a fleet management system with many defined vehicle events and relatively short intervals for automatically capturing telematics data.

However, as some embodiments of the fleet management system **5** will have more limited storage capacity for storing captured telematics data, the amount of telematics data collected may be regulated based on the system variables described above. For example, a system user that has limited data storage resources and that is particularly interested in monitoring seat belt usage in a fleet of vehicles may configure the telematics devices **102** of the fleet vehicles **100** to capture and store data from only those sensors relevant to seat belt status. In addition, the user may configure the telematics devices **102** to capture data at the minimal frequency necessary to accurately report seat belt usage. This embodiment could use, for example, a small number of vehicle events and long time interval for capturing telematics data when no vehicle events are detected. As a contrasting example, a large fleet management entity having large amounts of data storage resources may configure the telematics devices **102** of its large fleet of vehicles **100** to capture and store data from a wide variety of vehicle sensors at a high frequency such that the telematics data may be analyzed to assess a wide variety of vehicle and driver efficiencies. As described above, this embodiment could use, for example, a large number of vehicle events and short time interval for automatically capturing telematics data. Accordingly, the telematics device **102** may be flexibly configured to suit the needs of a particular fleet management system **5** user.

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Portable Data Acquisition Device

As noted above, the portable data acquisition device **110** may be configured for receiving and storing user input received from a driver, receiving and displaying information received from the central server **120**, receiving and storing telematics data received from the telematics device **102**, and transmitting any received data to the central server **120** over the network **130**. According to various embodiments, the various functions of the portable data acquisition device **110** described herein may be generally understood as being performed by one or more of the portable data acquisition device **110** components described below.

According to various embodiments, the portable data acquisition device **110** is a handheld electronic device capable of data acquisition, such as a delivery information acquisition device (“DIAD”), pocket PC, personal digital assistant (“PDA”), handheld computer, smartphone, laptop, converged device, personal navigation device, or the like—including both wireless and wireline devices. FIG. 4 illustrates a schematic block diagram of a portable data acquisition device **110** according to one embodiment. In the illustrated embodiment, the portable data acquisition device **110** includes an antenna **312**, a transmitter **304**, a receiver **306**, and a processing device **308** (e.g., one or more processors, controllers, or the like) for providing signals to and receiving signals from the transmitter **304** and receiver **306**, respectively. As discussed in greater detail below, the processing device **308** may be configured to control the various functionalities of the portable data acquisition device **110**, including receiving, storing, displaying, and transmitting operational data to and from the various components of the fleet management system **5**. Although not shown, the portable data acquisition device **110** may also include a battery, such as a vibrating battery pack, for powering the various circuits that are required to operate the portable data acquisition device **110**, as well as optionally providing mechanical vibration as a detectable output.

The signals provided to and received from the transmitter **304** and the receiver **306**, respectively, may include signaling information in accordance with an air interface standard of applicable wireless systems. In this regard, the portable data acquisition device **110** may be capable of operating with one or more air interface standards, communication protocols, modulation types, and access types. More particularly, the portable data acquisition device **110** may operate in accordance with any of a number of second-generation (“2G”) communication protocols, third-generation (“3G”) communication protocols, and/or the like. Further, for example, the portable data acquisition device **110** may operate in accordance with any of a number of different wireless networking techniques, including Bluetooth, IEEE 802.11 (“Wi-Fi”), 802.16 (“WiMAX”), ultra wideband (“UWB”), and/or the like. Via these communication standards and protocols, the portable data acquisition device **110** can communicate with the central server **120** and telematics device **102**. The portable data acquisition device can also download changes, add-ons, and updates, for instance, to its firmware, software (e.g., including modules), and operating system.

The portable data acquisition device **110** can also include volatile memory **322** and/or non-volatile memory **324**, which can be embedded and/or may be removable. For example, the non-volatile memory **324** may be embedded or removable multimedia memory cards (“MMCs”), secure digital (“SD”) memory cards, Memory Sticks, EEPROM, flash memory, hard disk, or the like. The memory **322**, **324** can store any of a number of pieces or amount of information and data used by the portable data acquisition device **110** to implement the functions of the portable data acquisition device **110**. For

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example, the volatile **322** and non-volatile **324** memory can be used to temporarily or permanently store input from external devices and/or input entered by the user via a user interface. The memory **322**, **324** can also store content, such as computer program code for an application and/or other computer programs. For example, the memory **322**, **324** may store computer program code for instructing the processing device **308** to perform operations discussed above and below.

In various embodiments, the portable data acquisition device **110** may also include a location sensing device (e.g., a Global Positioning System (GPS) device or other location sensor, such as those described above in relation to the telematics device **102**) for providing location information in the form of, for example, latitude and longitude values. In particular embodiments, this location sensing device may be used to gather information regarding the location of the driver him- or herself, as opposed to location information associated with the delivery vehicle **100**, which is collected (or determined) by the telematics device **102** in certain embodiments.

According to various embodiments, the portable data acquisition device **110** further includes a user interface comprising a display **316**, which may be coupled to the processing device **308**, and one or more input devices allowing the portable data acquisition device **110** to receive data, such as a keypad **318**, touch display (not shown), barcode reader (not shown), radio frequency identification (“RFID”) tag reader (not shown), and/or other input devices. In embodiments including a keypad **318**, the keypad **318** may include conventional numeric (e.g., 0-9) and related keys (e.g., #, *), a full set of alphabetic keys or set of keys that may be activated to provide a full set of alphanumeric keys, specially programmed keys to activate selected functions, and other keys used for operating the portable data acquisition device **110**. In addition to receiving input, the user interface can be used, for example, to activate or deactivate certain functions, such as screen savers and/or sleep modes.

According to various embodiments, the portable data acquisition device **110** is configured for receiving user input (e.g., via the user interface) and storing the received user input as service data. In particular, a vehicle operator (e.g., driver) may indicate a variety of service dynamics, such as delivery- or vehicle-related activities or occurrences, by using the user interface’s keypad **318** and other input devices. For example, in various embodiments, the user interface is configured to permit a driver to indicate the following service dynamics: (a) that a delivery stop has commenced (e.g., by pressing a button indicating that the driver has arrived at a delivery location and commenced the delivery process), (b) that a delivery stop has ended (e.g., by pressing a button indicating that the driver has completed the delivery and is now leaving the delivery location), (c) that a particular bill of lading and its associated freight or packages have been picked up or delivered (e.g., by entering or scanning a tracking number or code, or otherwise identifying one or more bills of lading associated with freight or packages that have been picked up or delivered), (d) the number of units picked up or delivered at a stop (e.g., by manually entering a numerical value), (e) the weight of packages or freight picked up or delivered at a stop (e.g., by manually entering a numerical value), (f) that a lunch or break period has commenced or ended (e.g., by pressing a button indicating that the start or stop of a break or lunch), (g) that a particular delay encountered by a driver has commenced or ended (e.g., by entering a code or otherwise identifying a type of delay that a driver has encountered—such as waiting for freight, caught in traffic, fueling a vehicle, waiting at train tracks, waiting at security, waiting for bill of lading—and pressing a button indicating that the identified delay has

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started or stopped), (h) that the driver has begun a work day and is on the clock (e.g., at a shipping hub and before starting the vehicle **100**), (i) that the driver has ended a work day and is off the clock, (j) that the driver and vehicle have entered a particular area (e.g., the property of a shipping hub, a designated delivery area or other work area), and (k) that the driver and vehicle have exited a particular area (e.g., the property of a shipping hub, a designated delivery area or other work area).

In response to receiving user input indicating any of these occurrences, the portable data acquisition device **110** may capture and store the received input as service data in a computer readable format. In accordance with the various features of the user interface, the stored service data may take a variety of forms. For example, user input in the form of manually entered alphanumeric text may be stored as a copy of the entered text (e.g., a manually entered tracking number, reason for a delay, location of delay, etc.). In contrast, user input in the form of a user selection of a user interface button or touchpad option (e.g., a selection indicating a stop has commenced) may be recognized by the portable data acquisition device **110** and stored as data representing the indicated occurrence. For example, if a user selects a button indicating that an unplanned delay due to traffic has begun, the portable data acquisition device **110** may store the input as a code corresponding to the commencement of the indicated delay (e.g., B-TR01) or as text indicating the commencement of the indicated delay (e.g., Start Traffic Delay).

After receiving input via the user interface and capturing the input as service data, the portable data acquisition device **110** may be further configured to concurrently capture and store contextual data. The contextual data may include, for example, the date (e.g., 12/30/10) and time (e.g., 13:24) the service data is captured, the driver associated with the portable data acquisition device **110** at the time the service data is captured (e.g., John Q. Doe), the vehicle with which that driver is associated at the time the service data is captured (e.g., a vehicle identification number such as 16234), the location of the portable data acquisition device **110** at the time the service data is captured (e.g., GPS coordinates), the type of service data captured (e.g., delay code, stop status), and—where applicable—the stop number at which the service data is captured (e.g., stop 3). The contextual data may be captured, for example, from various portable data acquisition device **110** components (e.g., an internal clock, location sensing device) and from data stored on the portable data acquisition device **110** (e.g., current driver name, current vehicle id). Further, the portable data acquisition device **110** is configured to associate the captured service data with the captured contextual data in order to ensure concurrently captured service data and contextual data captured are linked. For example, in one embodiment, the portable data acquisition device **110** stores concurrently captured service data and contextual data in the same data record or records. As the service data captured by the portable data acquisition device **110** is associated with captured contextual data, the central server **120** will later be able to associate the service data with corresponding telematics data (e.g., based on time, driver, and/or vehicle), as well as search and identify stored service data based on—for example—a particular data, time, vehicle, and/or driver.

As noted earlier in regard to the telematics device **102**, in certain embodiments, a driver may be required to enter his or her driver ID number (or name) and vehicle ID number at the beginning of each day in order to enable the portable data acquisition device **110** to associate captured service data with contextual data. In other embodiments, the portable data acquisition device **110** may be programmed remotely (e.g.,

from the central server **120** over the network **130**) such that it is associated with the appropriate driver and vehicle information. According to various embodiments, the contextual data may be formatted in any computer-readable and transmittable data format. For example, in one embodiment, the contextual data is metadata.

As noted earlier, the portable data acquisition device **110** may also be configured for storing telematics data received from the telematics device **102**, and for transmitting such data to the central server **120** (e.g., where the telematics device **102** is unable to establish a suitable connection with the central server **120**). After storing captured service data and contextual data, and/or receiving telematics data, the portable data acquisition device **110** is further configured to transmit the data to the central server **120**. According to various embodiments, the captured data may be transmitted using any of the communication methods or protocols described herein, as well as various other methods and protocols known in the art.

In addition, the portable data acquisition device **110** may also store service data received from the central server **120**, such as data indicating the weight, number of units, or type of items comprising a driver's current shipment. This data may later be associated with telematics data captured by the telematics device **102** while that particular shipment is being delivered. The portable data acquisition device **110** is also configured for displaying (e.g., via the display **316**) data received from the central server **120** and telematics device **102**. For example, the portable data acquisition device **110** may receive and display delivery information from the central server **120** (e.g., updated instructions for a particular delivery) or telematics data from the telematics device **102** (e.g., an alert that engine temperature is too high, tire pressure is too low, or recent gas mileage is poor). According to various embodiments, the portable data acquisition device **110** may communicate with other components of the fleet management system **5** using the above-described communication methods and protocols.

Central Server

As noted above, various embodiments of the central server **120** are generally configured for receiving and storing operational data (e.g., telematics data received from the telematics device **102** and service data received from the portable data acquisition device **110**) and evaluating the operational data for a fleet of vehicles in order to assess various fleet efficiencies and aid fleet management system **5** users in improving the operational efficiency of the fleet. According to various embodiments, the central server **120** includes various means for performing one or more functions in accordance with embodiments of the present invention, including those more particularly shown and described herein. As will be appreciated from the description herein, however, the central server **120** may include alternative devices for performing one or more like functions without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention.

FIG. 5 illustrates a schematic diagram of the central server **120** according to various embodiments. The central server **120** includes a processor **60** that communicates with other elements within the central server **120** via a system interface or bus **61**. In the illustrated embodiment, the central server **120** includes a display device/input device **64** for receiving and displaying data. This display device/input device **64** may be, for example, a keyboard or pointing device that is used in combination with a monitor. In certain embodiments, the central server **120** may not include a display device/input device and may be alternatively accessed by a separate computing device (e.g., a networked workstation) having a display device and input device. The central server **120** further

includes memory **66**, which preferably includes both read only memory (ROM) **65** and random access memory (RAM) **67**. The server's ROM **65** is used to store a basic input/output system **26** (BIOS), containing the basic routines that help to transfer information between elements within the central server **120**.

In addition, the central server **120** includes at least one storage device **63**—such as a hard disk drive, a floppy disk drive, a CD Rom drive, or optical disk drive—for storing information on various computer-readable media, such as a hard disk, a removable magnetic disk, or a CD-ROM disk. As will be appreciated by one of ordinary skill in the art, each of these storage devices **63** is connected to the system bus **61** by an appropriate interface. The storage devices **63** and their associated computer-readable media provide nonvolatile storage for a personal computer. It is important to note that the computer-readable media described above could be replaced by any other type of computer-readable media known in the art. Such media include, for example, magnetic cassettes, flash memory cards, digital video disks, and Bernoulli cartridges.

A number of program modules may be stored by the various storage devices and within RAM **65**. Such program modules include an operating system **80**, a plurality of program modules **1000-2300**. According to various embodiments, the modules **1000-2300** control certain aspects of the operation of the central server **120** with the assistance of the processor **60** and operating system **80**. Embodiments of these modules are described in more detail below in relation to FIGS. **10-39**.

In a particular embodiment, these program modules **1000-2300**, are executed by the central server **120** and are configured to generate graphical user interfaces accessible to users of the system. In one embodiment, the user interfaces may be accessible via the Internet or other communications network. In other embodiments, one or more of the modules **1000-2300** may be stored locally on one or more computers and executed by one or more processors of the computers.

According to various embodiments, the central server **120** is configured to send data to, receive data from, and utilize data contained in a central server database, which may be comprised of one or more separate, linked databases. For example, in executing the various modules **1000-2300**, the central server **120** may retrieve data necessary for performing various analyses from the central server database, and may store data resulting from various analyses in the central server database. According to various embodiments, the central server database may be a component of the central server **120**, or a separate component located remotely from the central server **120**. In addition, the central server database may be configured for storing data in various data sets. In various embodiments, each data set may comprise a plurality of stored data records, each record (or set of associated records) comprising one or more data fields of unique data entries. For example, telematics data and contextual data concurrently captured by the telematics device **102** may be stored in a data record, where each data field in the data record represents a unique data entry (e.g., a measurement of vehicle speed, GPS coordinates, the time and date the data was captured, and an ID number of the vehicle from which the data was captured).

Also located within the central server **120** is a network interface **74**, for interfacing and communicating with other elements of a computer network. It will be appreciated by one of ordinary skill in the art that one or more of the central server **120** components may be located geographically remotely from other central server **120** components. Furthermore, one or more of the components may be combined, and additional

components performing functions described herein may be included in the central server **120**.

While the foregoing describes a single processor **60**, as one of ordinary skill in the art will recognize, the central server **120** may comprise multiple processors operating in conjunction with one another to perform the functionality described herein. In addition to the memory **66**, the processor **60** can also be connected to at least one interface or other means for displaying, transmitting and/or receiving data, content or the like. In this regard, the interface(s) can include at least one communication interface or other means for transmitting and/or receiving data, content or the like, as well as at least one user interface that can include a display and/or a user input interface. The user input interface, in turn, can comprise any of a number of devices allowing the entity to receive data from a user, such as a keypad, a touch display, a joystick or other input device.

While reference is made to a central "server" **120**, as one of ordinary skill in the art will recognize, embodiments of the present invention are not limited to a client-server architecture. The system of embodiments of the present invention is further not limited to a single server, or similar network entity or mainframe computer system. Other similar architectures including one or more network entities operating in conjunction with one another to provide the functionality described herein may likewise be used without departing from the spirit and scope of embodiments of the present invention. For example, a mesh network of two or more personal computers (PCs), or similar electronic devices, collaborating with one another to provide the functionality described herein in association with the central server **120** may likewise be used without departing from the spirit and scope of embodiments of the present invention.

Capturing Operational Data for a Fleet

According to various embodiments, the fleet management system **5** is configured to capture operational data from various delivery vehicles **100** and their respective drivers over a period of time in order to amass data reflecting the overall operations of the fleet. The operational data captured by the fleet management system **5** generally comprises vehicle telematics data, which may be captured from various vehicle sensors by the telematics device **102**, and service data, which may be captured from driver input by the portable data acquisition device **110**. Generally, the telematics data is indicative of various vehicle dynamics (e.g., vehicle location, engine speed, etc.), while the service data is indicative of driver or delivery activity (e.g., driver status, status of various deliveries).

As described in greater detail below, the telematics device **102** and portable data acquisition device **110** are configured for capturing telematics data and service data such that each type of data may later be evaluated in the context of the other. The captured operational data is then transmitted to the central server **120**, which receives, processes, and stores the data in order to it prepare it for evaluation in accordance with user requests received via a graphical user interface.

Operation of Telematics Device Capturing Telematics Data

As noted above, according to various embodiments, the telematics device **102** is generally configured to control various vehicle sensors **410** positioned on a particular delivery vehicle **100**, capture and store vehicle telematics data generated by those sensors **410**, and transmit the telematics data to the portable data acquisition device **110** and/or central server **120**. FIG. 6 illustrates exemplary steps executed by the telematics device **102** to capture and transmit telematics data according to one embodiment. In various embodiments, the components of the telematics device **102** described herein

may be configured to execute the steps of FIG. 6 in accordance with the principles described above.

Beginning with step **602**, the telematics device **102** monitors data generated by the vehicle sensors **410** for parameters that match predefined vehicle events programmed in the telematics device **102**. In one embodiment, the telematics device **102** is programmed to monitor some or all the following predefined vehicle events in step **602**: (a) the vehicle **100** being turned on and beginning to idle (e.g., where vehicle sensors **410** indicate the vehicle's engine is turned on and the vehicle speed is zero), (b) the vehicle **100** beginning to move and thereby ceasing to idle (e.g., where the vehicle sensors **410** indicate the vehicle's engine is on and the vehicle's speed has increased from zero to a non-zero value), (c) the vehicle **100** slowing to a stop and beginning to idle (e.g., where the vehicle sensors **410** indicate the vehicle's engine is on and the vehicle's speed has decreased from a non-zero value to zero), (d) the vehicle **100** being turned off and ceasing to idle (e.g., where the vehicle sensors **410** indicate the vehicle's engine is turned off and the vehicle speed is zero), (e) the vehicle **100** moving out of a geo-fenced area associated with its home shipping hub (e.g., as indicated by a GPS sensor), (f) the vehicle **100** moving into a geo-fenced area associated with its home shipping hub, (g) the vehicle **100** moving into a geo-fenced area associated with a delivery area assigned to vehicle **100** and its driver, (h) the vehicle **100** moving out of a geo-fenced area associated with a delivery area assigned to vehicle **100** and its driver, (i) the vehicle **100** beginning to move in a reverse direction, (j) the vehicle **100** ceasing to move in a reverse direction, and (k) the vehicle's seat belt being engaged or disengaged while the vehicle's engine is on.

Next, at step **604**, the telematics device **102** determines whether any of the aforementioned predefined vehicle events have occurred. If a vehicle event is detected, the telematics device **102** moves to step **606**, where it captures and stores telematics data from the vehicle sensors **410**. As noted earlier, the telematics data captured from the sensors **410** will indicate measurements or data from each of the vehicle sensors **410**. This telematics data may indicate, for example, engine ignition status (e.g., on or off), engine speed (e.g., RPM), vehicle speed (e.g., miles per hour), vehicle location (e.g., latitude and longitude), current distance traveled (e.g., current odometer reading), location status (e.g., on-property, on-area), seat belt status (e.g., engaged or disengaged), and vehicle backing status (e.g., moving in reverse or not moving in reverse). In one embodiment, the telematics device **102** stores captured telematics data in its memory modules **210**, in another data storage component of the telematics device **102**, or in an associated database (e.g., a cloud database).

If a vehicle event is not detected in step **604**, the telematics device **102** moves to step **608**, where it determines whether a threshold data capture time has elapsed. For example, in one embodiment, the threshold data capture time is defined as 30 seconds. If the telematics device **102** determines that the threshold data capture time has not elapsed, it returns to step **602** to continue monitoring for vehicle events. However, if the telematics device **102** determines that the threshold data capture time has elapsed (e.g., more than 30 seconds have passed since the last time data was captured from the vehicle sensors), the telematics device **102** moves to step **606** and captures telematics data from all of the vehicle sensors **410** as described above.

Next, at step **612**, the telematics device **102** captures contextual data and associates the contextual data with the telematics data captured and stored in step **606**. In various embodiments, step **612** may be executed concurrently with the step **606**. In one embodiment, the telematics device **102** is

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configured to capture some or all of the following contextual data in step 612: the date (e.g., 12/30/10) and time (e.g., 13:24) the data was captured, the vehicle from which the data was captured (e.g., a vehicle identification number such as 16234), the driver of the vehicle from which the data was captured at the time it was captured (e.g., John Q. Doe), and a logged reason for the data capture (e.g., a code indicating the detected vehicle event or indicating that the threshold data capture time interval elapsed). Further, in one embodiment, the telematics device 102 is configured to associate the captured telematics data with the captured contextual data by storing fields of telematics data captured from the vehicles sensors 410 in the same record, or records, as concurrently captured contextual data, thereby associating concurrently captured data.

Next, at step 614, the telematics device 102 transmits the telematics data and associated contextual data captured and stored in steps 606 and 612 to the central server 120 or portable data acquisition device 110. This may be accomplished by using any of the transmission methods and systems described herein, as well as other methods, protocols, and systems known in the art. As described earlier, in one embodiment the telematics device 102 is configured to first attempt to transmit captured data to the central server 120, and subsequently attempt to transfer data to the portable data acquisition device 110 if a connection with the central server 120 is unavailable.

Operation of Portable Data Acquisition Device Capturing Service Data

According to various embodiments, the portable data acquisition device 110 is configured for receiving user input via its user interface, capturing and storing user input as service data, receiving telematics data from the telematics device 102, and transmitting the captured service data and received telematics data to the central server 120. FIG. 7 illustrates exemplary steps executed by the portable data acquisition device 110 to capture and transmit service data and telematics data. As will be appreciated from the description herein, in various embodiments, the various components of the portable data acquisition device 110 may be configured to execute the steps of FIG. 7 in accordance with the principles described above.

Beginning with step 702, the portable data acquisition device 110 monitors its user interface for user input (e.g., from a driver) and its receiver 306 for inbound telematics data (e.g., from the telematics deliver 102). In one embodiment, the portable data acquisition device 110 is configured to receive and recognize user input indicating some or all of the following: (a) that a delivery stop has commenced, (b) that a delivery stop has ended, (c) that a particular delivery stop is a pickup, delivery, or both, (d) that a particular bill of lading and its associated freight or packages have been picked up or delivered, (e) the number of units picked up or delivered at a stop, (f) the weight of packages or freight picked up or delivered at a stop, (g) that a lunch or break period has commenced, (h) that a lunch or break period has ended, (i) that a particular delay has been encountered, (j) that a particular delay has ended, (k) that a driver has begun a work day and is on the clock, (l) that a driver has ended a work day and is off the clock, (m) that the vehicle 100 has moved out of a geo-fenced area associated with its home shipping hub (e.g., as indicated by a GPS sensor), (n) that the vehicle 100 has moved into a geo-fenced area associated with its home shipping hub, (o) that the vehicle 100 has moved into a geo-fenced area associated with a delivery area assigned to vehicle 100 and its

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driver, and (p) that the vehicle 100 has moved out of a geo-fenced area associated with a delivery area assigned to vehicle 100 and its driver.

At step 704, the portable data acquisition device 110 determines whether user input has been received. If no inbound user input is detected, the portable data acquisition device 110 moves to step 710, which is described in detail below. If the portable acquisition device 110 detects user input (e.g., being input via the user interface), the device 110 moves to step 706, where it captures the user input and stores the input as service data. As described earlier, the captured service data may be stored—for example—as a copy of manually entered data or data generated by the portable data acquisition device 110 representing an occurrence indicated by the user (e.g., via a user interface touchpad or buttons). The captured service data may be stored, for example, in the device's volatile memory 322 and/or non-volatile memory 324 and in a computer readable format.

Next, at step 708, the portable data acquisition device 110 captures contextual data and associates the contextual data with the service data captured and stored in step 606. In various embodiments, step 708 may be executed concurrently with step 706. In one embodiment, the portable data acquisition device 110 is configured to capture some or all of the following contextual data in step 708: the date (e.g., 12/30/10) and time (e.g., 13:24) the service data is captured, the driver associated with the portable data acquisition device 110 at the time the service data is captured (e.g., John Q. Doe), the vehicle associated with the driver at the time the service data is captured (e.g., a vehicle identification number such as 16234), the type of service data captured (e.g., delay code, stop status), and—if applicable—a stop number associated with the input service data (e.g., stop 3). Further, the portable data acquisition device 110 is configured to associate the captured telematics data with the captured contextual data in order to ensure concurrently captured service data and contextual data are linked. For example, in one embodiment, the portable data acquisition device 110 is configured to store one or more fields of service data captured from the vehicles sensors 410 in the same record, or records, as concurrently captured contextual data, thereby associating concurrently captured data.

Next, at step 710, the portable acquisition device 110 determines whether telematics data has been received (e.g., from the telematics device 102). If portable data acquisition device 110 does not detect that telematics data has been received, it moves to step 714. If the portable data acquisition device detects that telematics data has been received, it moves to step 712, where it stores the received telematics data. The received telematics data may be stored, for example, in the device's volatile memory 322 and/or non-volatile memory 324. As noted above, this may occur where the telematics device 102 transmits captured telematics data to the portable data acquisition device 110 in instances when it is unable to establish a suitable connection for transmitting data to the central server 120.

Next, at step 714, the portable data acquisition device 110 transmits any service data captured and stored in step 706 and any telematics data stored in step 712 to the central server 120. According to various embodiments, the portable data acquisition device 110 may execute step 714 via any suitable communication method or protocol, including—but not limited to—those described herein.

Operation of Central Server Processing Telematics & Service Data

According to various embodiments, the central server 120 is configured for receiving, processing, and storing telematics

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data and service data received from the telematics device **102** and portable data acquisition device **110**. In particular, the central server **120** processes and stores received telematics data and service data in a manner that facilitates later evaluation of both types of data in the context of one another.

According to various embodiments, in response to receiving inbound telematics data or service data, the central server **120** is configured to process and store the data in an Operational Data Set stored on the central server database (which may comprise one or more separate, linked databases, and may be a local or remote database). The central server **120** populates the Operational Data Set by storing telematics data and service data in association with concurrently captured contextual data, thereby providing a contextual relationship between all of the stored operational data. For example, in various embodiments, the Operational Data Set comprises a plurality of data records representing concurrently captured data. Each data record (or plurality of associated data records) comprises a plurality of data fields representing a unique data entry.

In one embodiment, a data record of telematics data may comprise a plurality of data fields each representing a measurement from the vehicle sensors **410** (e.g., vehicle speed, vehicle location, engine speed, seat belt status) and a plurality of data fields each representing a contextual data measurement (e.g., date, time, driver, vehicle, logged reason for data capture). The data in each data field of the record represents data captured concurrently with the data in the other data fields. Likewise, in one embodiment, a data record of service data may comprise a data field representing an indication received from a user (e.g., a delivery stop is being commenced) and a plurality of data fields each representing a contextual data measurement (e.g., date, time, driver, vehicle, stop number, bill of lading number). By storing telematics data and service data in association with contextual data, the central server **120** may later access and retrieve data from the Operational Data Set by searching the stored data according to date, time, driver, vehicle, logged reason for data capture, or any other data field or combination of data fields associated with the stored telematics and service data (e.g., engine speed, vehicle speed, RPM, stop commenced, stop completed, lunch break commenced, lunch break ended, etc.).

In addition, according to various embodiments, the central server **120** is configured for maintaining a Planning Data Set stored in the central server database (or in another database accessible by the central server **120**). The Planning Data set may include stored data indicating, for example, planned delivery routes for various drivers and vehicles (e.g., a GPS-based route plan for a particular delivery vehicle **100**), the locations of planned stops along each delivery route (e.g., location name and/or GPS location), planned distances associated with planned delivery routes and stops (e.g., total planned distance for a delivery route, planned distances between planned stops), planned times associated various routes and stops (e.g., planned times for travel between stops, planned times for executing a delivery at a particular stop), planned delivery activities at each stop (e.g., pickup, delivery, pickup & delivery), particular packages or freight to be picked-up or delivered at a given stop (e.g., one or more tracking numbers for packages or freight), bills of lading associated with packages or freight being picked up or delivered at a particular stop (e.g., a number or code associated with a bill of lading), the weight of packages or freight to be picked-up or delivered at a particular stop (e.g., total weight for a pickup or delivery, or weight associated with a particular bill of lading, package, or portion of freight), and the number of units to be picked up or delivered at each stop (e.g., total

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number of units for a pickup or delivery, or number of units associated with a particular bill of lading).

The data stored in the Planning Data Set may be stored such that is associated with, for example, a particular driver, delivery vehicle, route, date, and/or hub location. As such, the central server **120** may access and retrieve data from the Planning Data Set by searching the stored data according to driver, vehicle, route, date, hub location, or any data field associated with the above described data (e.g., time, distance, weight, bill of lading number, tracking number, etc.). Accordingly, as described in greater detail below, the central server **120** may retrieve planning data stored in the Planning Data Set for use in evaluating the operational data stored in the Operational Data Set.

Central Server User Interface

As described above, the central server **120** is configured for evaluating operational data (e.g., telematics data and service data) for a fleet of vehicles in order to assess various fleet efficiencies and aid fleet management system **5** users in improving the operational efficiency of the fleet. According to various embodiments, the central server's **120** evaluation of operational data is conducted in accordance with user instructions received via the central server's user interface. In various embodiments, the user interface is a graphical user interface accessible from a remote workstation (e.g., in communication with the central server **120** via the network **130**), or by using the central server's display device/input device **64**.

For example, in various embodiments, a user may log in to the fleet management system **5** from a remote workstation (e.g., by opening a log-in page and entering a user id and password using a workstation display and keyboard). The central server **120** may be configured to recognize any such log-in request, verify that user has permission to access the system (e.g., by confirming the user id and password are valid), and present the user with a graphical user interface (e.g., displayed on the workstation's monitor). For example, FIG. **8** illustrates a start-up view **800** of a central server graphical user interface according to one embodiment. In the illustrated embodiment, the user interface **800** includes a location pull-down menu **802**, a pull-down date menu **804**, a driver menu **806** sorted according to driver sorting options **808**, a data loading button **809**, a map display **810**, an evaluation results display area **820** configured for displaying various tables and analysis results, and a set of evaluation option tabs **825** displayed in association with either an employee evaluation tab group **830** or a location evaluation tab group **840**.

According to various embodiments, the menus **802-808** allow a system user to select certain operational data for evaluation by the central server **120**. For example, in one embodiment, the user may request evaluation of operational data for a particular driver (or drivers) by selecting one or more drivers from the driver menu **806**. Likewise, as the driver menu **806** includes vehicle id numbers, the user may request evaluation of operational data for a particular vehicle. Further, the user may request evaluation only of operational data captured for that driver (or drivers) on a particular date or range of dates by also selecting a desired date or date range using the date menu **804**. As additional examples, the user also has the option of requesting evaluation of operational data for all drivers based at a particular location (e.g., by selecting only one or more shipping hub locations from the location menu **802**), or for all drivers at all locations on a particular date (e.g., by selecting only a date or date range from the date menu **804**). As will be appreciated from the description above, the user may request evaluation of all

operational data or any subset of operational data defined by any combination of parameters provided in the menus **802-808**.

After selecting operational data to be evaluated, the user may select the data loading button **809**, which prompts the central server **120** to retrieve and segment the selected operational data. As discussed in greater detail below, the central server's **120** segmentation of the operational data enables the data to be assessed based on a variety of efficiency criteria and metrics. As noted earlier, the user interface **800** presents the user with an evaluation tab set **825** comprising a plurality of tabs associated with an employee evaluation tab group **830** or a location evaluation tab group **840**. By selecting the various tabs in the evaluation tab set **825**, the user may request various analyses of the selected operational data, the results of which are shown in the evaluation results display area **820** and map display **810**.

According to various embodiments, the central server **120** is configured to detect a user's selection of the various parameters and options presented on the user interface **800** and call one or more of the software modules **1000-2300** in order to perform the appropriate data evaluation. FIG. 9 illustrates exemplary steps executed by the central server **120** in order to respond to user evaluation requests received via the user interface **800**. Beginning at step **902**, the central server **120** monitors the user interface **800** for user input (e.g., the selection of one of the tabs in the evaluation tab set **825**, selection of the loading button **809**, or another menu option). Next, at step **904**, the central server **120** determines whether the user has requested to load certain operational data (e.g., by selecting the data loading button **809**, or buttons provided on the dispatch profile menu **2356** of FIG. 39). If the user has not requested data loading, the central server **120** moves to step **914**, which is described in detail below. If the user has requested data loading, the central server **120** moves to step **906**.

At step **906**, the central server **120** first identifies the operational data the user has selected for loading by reviewing the user's menu selections **802-808**. For example, the user may request operational data relating to a particular driver (e.g., by using the driver menu **806**) and captured on a particular day (e.g., by using the date menu **804**). As another example, the user may request operational data for all drivers based at a particular location and captured on a particular day or range of days (e.g., by selecting a location using the location menu **802** and a date or date range using the date menu **804**, and not selecting a particular driver). The central server **120** then accesses the operational data stored the Operational Data Set of the central server database, identifies and retrieves all operational data matching the user's selections, and loads the retrieved data (e.g., in the central server's memory) for use in performing analyses. In particular, as described in greater detail herein, the user-selected operational data loaded by the central server **120** is used by the various modules **1000-2300** in performing and presenting analyses of the user-selected data.

Next, at step **908**, the central server **120** plots the vehicle's **100** travel path on the map display **810** based on the operational data loaded in step **906**. In one embodiment, the central server **120** executes step **908** by first loading and displaying a base electronically navigable map (herein the "base map"). For example, in various embodiments, the data comprising the base map may be stored on, and retrieved from, the central server database. Next, the central server **120** reviews the loaded operational data and identifies location data (e.g., captured GPS coordinates) and time data (e.g., captured times, such as 09:38:12) associated with each data record in the

loaded operational data. The central server **120** then generates a graphical representation of the vehicle's **100** travel path on the map display **810**. In one embodiment, the central server **120** accomplishes this by plotting each individual location data point in the loaded operational data on the map display and then connecting the plotted location points in chronological order—based on the retrieved time data—with lines displayed over the base map. In various embodiments the travel path generated by the central server **120** may comprise a colored line having a thickness greater than that of roads shown in the base map and which includes arrows disposed along the travel path to indicate the direction of the vehicle's **100** travel. For example, FIG. 13—which is discussed in greater detail below—shows a vehicle travel path **1258** according to one embodiment. As noted earlier, the telematics device **102** is configured to capture location data representing the geographical position of the vehicle **100** when telematics data is captured from the vehicle (e.g., when a vehicle event is detected or the threshold data capture time has elapsed). As such, the location data present in the loaded operational data is generally sufficient to enable the central server **120** to accurately plot the path of the vehicle **100** between the plotted stops.

Next, at step **910**, the central server **120** calls the data segmentation module **1000**, which—as described in greater detail below—evaluates the operational data loaded in step **906** to identify and store various vehicle- and delivery-related activity segments. In certain embodiments, the resulting segmented data is stored in a Segmented Data Set of the central server database. When the data segmentation module **1000** has completed segmenting the loaded operational data, the central server **120** moves to step **912**, where it retrieves and loads the segmented data corresponding to the user-selected operational data for use in various analyses (e.g., by retrieving the data from the Segmented Data Set in the central server database and loading it in the central server's memory). As with the user-selected operational data, the segmented data loaded by the central server **120** is used by the various modules **1000-2300** in performing and presenting analyses of the user-selected data.

Next, at step **914**, the central server **120** determines whether the user has requested a particular evaluation of the selected data by selecting one of the tab groups **830**, **840** and one of the tabs in an associated tab set **825**. If the user has not requested data evaluation, the central server **120** moves back to step **902** and continues monitoring for user input. If the user has selected a tab from the tab set **825**, the central server moves to step **918** where it determines whether the appropriate user-selected operational data has been loaded and segmented. If the user-selected operational data has not been loaded and segmented, the central server **120** moves back to step **906**—where it loads the selected operational data—and then loops back through steps **910-914**. For example, where a user has loaded only operational data for a particular employee, but has selected a location-wide evaluation (e.g., an evaluation associated with a tab in the location evaluation tab group **840**), the central server **120** will loop back to step **906** and load the appropriate operational data for all employees associated with the user's selected location. Likewise, where a user has loaded operational data for all employees at a particular location, but has selected an employee-specific evaluation (e.g., an evaluation associated with a tab in the employee evaluation tab group **830**), the central server **120** will prompt the user to select a particular employee and loop back to step **906** to load the appropriate operational data. As a result, the central server **120** loads and evaluates operational data relevant to the user's requested evaluation. If the appro-

priate user-selected operational data has been loaded and segmented, the central server moves to step 920.

Finally, at step 920, the central server 120 calls the module associated with the evaluation option selected by the user. As described in greater detail below, the various modules 1000-2300 are each associated with a particular tab in the evaluation tab set 825, which the user may select to request a particular analysis of the selected operational data.

Data Segmenting Module

According to various embodiments, the data segmenting module 1000 is configured for evaluating operational data in order to identify segments of activity indicated by the data (herein referred to as "segmenting" the data). Each identified activity segment represents a period of time (e.g., 11:00 to 11:42 on 12/31/10) classified according to activity (e.g., vehicle stop time, vehicle travel time, driver lunch break). In many instances, certain activity segments may overlap with other activity segments (e.g., segments indicating engine idle time attributable to a traffic jam may overlap with segments indicating vehicle travel time). By segmenting the operational data captured by the telematics device 102 and portable data acquisition device 110, the data segmenting module 1000 can generate an accounting of activities occurring during the fleet's operating hours. As described in relation to the modules 1000-2300 below, segmenting the captured operational data for a fleet enables the central server 120 to perform a variety of analyses in order to assess various fleet efficiencies and to provide a graphical representation of vehicle and delivery activities for any period of time.

In various embodiments, the data segmenting module 1000 is configured to identify a plurality of programmed activity segments indicating various vehicle-related, delivery-related, and/or driver-related activities and occurrences. The data segmenting module 1000 identifies these activity segments based on operational data stored in the Operational Data Set, which may include telematics data captured from the telematics device 102 and service data captured from the portable data acquisition device 110. As discussed above in regard to FIGS. 8 and 9, the central server 120 may call the data segmenting module 1000 to segment operational data selected by a user using the user interface menus 802-808 (e.g., in step 906 of FIG. 9). FIG. 10 illustrates steps executed by the data segmenting module 1000 to segment user-selected operational data according to one embodiment.

Beginning at step 1004, the data segmenting module 1000 first identifies and stores all vehicle engine idle time segments indicated by the operational data loaded by the central server 120 (e.g., the operational data loaded in step 906 of FIG. 9). According to various embodiments, an engine idle segment indicates a period of time during which the vehicle's engine is on and the vehicle's speed is zero. To identify such engine idle segments, the data segmenting module 1000 first reviews the operational data loaded by the central server 120 for data indicating the beginning or end of an engine idle segment. For example, in one embodiment, the data segmenting module 1000 identifies the beginning of engine idle segments by identifying, in the retrieved operational data, telematics data indicating instances where the vehicle's engine was turned on (e.g., when the vehicle 100 is turned on and begins to idle) and instances where the vehicle's engine was on and the vehicle's speed decreased from a non-zero value to zero (e.g., when the vehicle 100 comes to a stop and begins idle). The data segmenting module 1000 then defines the time at which each of the identified beginning instances occurred (e.g., as indicated by associated contextual data) as the beginning of a unique engine idle segment. Likewise, in one embodiment, the data segmenting module 1000 identifies the end of engine idle

segments by identifying, in the retrieved operational data, telematics data indicating instances where the vehicle's engine was on and the vehicle speed increased from zero to a non-zero value (e.g., when the vehicle 100 begins moving and ceases to idle) and instances where the vehicle's engine was turned off (e.g., when the vehicle 100 is turned off and ceases to idle). The data segmenting module 1000 then defines the time at which each of the ending instances occurred as the end of a unique engine idle segment.

Next, the data segmenting module 1000 links chronologically adjacent beginning and ending instances to compose individual engine idle segments each defined by a start time (e.g., 12:31:15) and end time (e.g., 12:32:29). The data segmenting module 1000 then stores these engine idle segments in a Segmented Data Set in the central server database for use in further analyses. The resulting engine idle segments may reflect segments of engine idle time attributable to a variety of contingencies, such as traffic during travel (e.g., idle segments beginning where a vehicle's speed decreases to zero and ending where the vehicle's speed increases from zero) or driver activities in preparing to travel or preparing to stop (e.g., idle segments beginning with the engine being turned on or ending with the engine being turned off). As such, in one embodiment, the data segmenting module 1000 is configured to store each engine idle segment in association with logged reasons for data capture associated with the beginning and ending of a respective idle segment. The data segmenting module 1000 may accomplish this, for example, by retrieving the logged reason for data capture from the contextual data associated with the start of the engine idle segment (e.g., a code indicating the vehicle was turned on, a code indicating the vehicle slowed from speed to a stop) and the end of the engine idle segment (e.g., a code indicating the vehicle was turned off, a code indicating the vehicle has accelerated from standstill). In addition, in one embodiment, the engine idle segments—as well as the other identified segments discussed herein—are stored in the Segmented Data Set in association with contextual data indicating the operational data from which they were derived (e.g., data indicating the user-selected date and driver corresponding to the operational data loaded in step 906 of FIG. 9).

Next, at step 1006, the data segmenting module 1000 identifies and stores various vehicle trip segments based on the identified engine idle segments. According to various embodiments, a vehicle trip generally represents a vehicle's transit time from an origin location to a destination location (e.g., beginning when the vehicle's engine is turned on at the origin location and ending when the vehicle's engine is turned off at the destination location). In step 1006, the data segmenting module 1000 identifies such vehicle trips and breaks each vehicle trip into a Start of Trip segment, a Travel segment, and an End of Trip segment. Generally, the Start of Trip segment begins with the vehicle's engine turning on at its origin location and ends when the vehicle 100 first begins to move, the Travel segment begins when the vehicle 100 begins to move and ends when the vehicle 100 stops at its destination location, and the End of Trip segment begins when the vehicle 100 stops at its destination location and ends when the vehicle's engine is turned off.

To identify the various vehicle trip segments, the data segmenting module 1000 first reviews the engine idle segments identified in step 1004 and identifies engine idle segments beginning with vehicle's engine being turned on (e.g., by reviewing the contextual data indicating a logged reason for data capture associated with the beginning of each stored engine idle segment, or by reviewing telematics data associated with the beginning of each stored engine idle segment).

As these engine idle segments correspond to the Start of Trip segment of a vehicle trip, the data segmenting module **1000** then defines the identified idle segments as Start of Trip segments in the Segmented Data Set. The data segmenting module **1000** next reviews the engine idle segments identified in step **1004** and identifies engine idle segments ending with the vehicle's engine being turned off (e.g., by reviewing the associated contextual data indicating a logged reason for data capture associated with the ending of each stored engine idle segment, or by reviewing telematics data associated with the ending of each stored engine idle segment). As these engine idle segments correspond to the End of Trip segment of a vehicle trip, the data segmenting module **1000** then defines the identified idle segments as End of Trip segments in the Segmented Data Set. Finally, the data segmenting module **1000** reviews the Start of Trip and End of Trip segments in the Segmented Data Set, identifies all periods of time existing between the end of a Start of Trip segment and the beginning of a corresponding End of Trip Segment (e.g., 9:45:16 to 10:05:23), and stores each identified time period as a Travel segment in the Segmented Data Set. Accordingly, in one embodiment, each stored Start of Trip segment, End of Trip segment, and Travel segment are defined by data indicating the respective segment's start time (e.g., 10:18:23), end time (e.g., 10:26:12), and the segment type (e.g., Start of Trip, End of Trip, Travel).

Next, at step **1008**, the data segmenting module **1000** identifies and stores Travel Delay segments based on the previously identified engine idle segments and Travel segments. According to various embodiments, a Travel Delay segment represents a period of engine idle time occurring during a Travel segment (e.g., when a vehicle is stopped at an intersection or stopped in heavy traffic). As such, to identify Travel Delay segments, the data segmenting module **1000** reviews all engine idle segments identified in step **1004**, identifies those engine idle segments occurring during any Travel segment identified in step **1006** (e.g., by comparing contextual data indicating the time each engine idle segment begins and ends with the time periods represented by each Travel segment), and defines those engine idle segments as Travel Delay segments in the Segmented Data Set. Accordingly, in one embodiment, each stored Travel Delay segment is defined by data indicating the segment's start time (e.g., 12:17:23), end time (e.g., 12:17:54), and the segment type (e.g., Travel Delay).

Next, at step **1010**, the data segmenting module **1000** identifies and stores Stop segments indicated by the service data in the user-selected operational data loaded by the central server **120**. According to various embodiments, a Stop segment generally represents a period of time during which a driver is performing a delivery (e.g., unloading freight or delivering an individual package). As noted above, a driver may provide user input to the portable data acquisition device **110** (e.g., via the user interface) indicating that a delivery stop has commenced or ended. As such, to identify Stop segments, the data segmenting module **1000** reviews the operational data loaded by the central server **120** and identifies service data indicating that a delivery stop has commenced or ended. The data segmenting module **1000** then links chronologically adjacent delivery stop beginning and ending instances to compose individual Stop segments each defined by a start time and end time. In addition, the data segmenting module **1000** determines whether the identified operational data indicates a Stop type, such as whether the Stop is a delivery, pickup, or both. The data segmenting module **1000** then stores these Stop segments in the Segmented Data Set for use in further analyses. Accordingly, in one embodiment, each stored Stop seg-

ment is defined by data indicating the Stop's start time (e.g., 11:28:43), the Stop's end time (e.g., 11:38:12), and the Stop's type (e.g., delivery stop, pickup stop, delivery and pickup stop).

Next, at step **1012**, the data segmenting module **1000** identifies and stores all Lunch, Break, and Coded Delay segments indicated by the service data in the user-selected operational data loaded by the central server **120**. According to various embodiments, Lunch and Break segments generally represent periods of time during which a driver has ceased traveling or delivery activity in order to eat lunch or take a break, while Coded Delay segments represent periods of time during which a driver has encountered an unexpected delay (e.g., due to traffic or vehicle trouble) and has indicated such a delay via the portable data acquisition device **110**. As noted above, a driver may provide user input to the portable data acquisition device **110** (e.g., via the user interface) indicating the beginning or end of a Lunch, Break, or Coded Delay segment. Accordingly, to identify Lunch, Break, and Coded Delay segments, the data segmenting module **1000** reviews the service data present in operational data loaded by the central server **120** and identifies data indicating that a Lunch, Break, or Coded Delay has commenced or ended. The data segmenting module **1000** then links chronologically adjacent Lunch beginning and ending instances, and chronologically adjacent Break beginning and ending instances, to compose individual Lunch and Break segments each defined by a start time and end time. Likewise, the data segmenting module **1000** links chronologically adjacent Coded Delay beginning and ending instances corresponding to the same delay type or delay code to compose individual Coded Delay segments. The data segmenting module **1000** then stores these Lunch, Break, and Coded Delay segments in the Segmented Data Set for use in further analyses. In one embodiment, each stored Lunch, Break, or Coded Delay segment is defined by data indicating the respective segment's start time (e.g., 10:18:23), end time (e.g., 10:26:12), and segment type (e.g., lunch break, planned break, waiting for freight coded delay, unexpected traffic coded delay, vehicle maintenance coded delay).

Next, at step **1014**, the data segmenting module **1000** identifies and stores On Property segments indicated by the user-selected operational data loaded by the central server **120**. According to various embodiments, On Property segments generally represent periods of time when a vehicle **100** is located on the property of its hub (e.g., a local shipping hub operated by a shipping entity) and the vehicle's driver is "on the clock" or otherwise working. As such, On Property segments may represent—for example—periods of time during which a vehicle **100** and driver are waiting to leave the hub at the beginning of a day (e.g., waiting for delivery instructions, waiting for the vehicle **100** to be fueled, or waiting for freight to be loaded), periods of time during which a vehicle **100** and driver have returned to the shipping hub during the middle of a day (e.g., to retrieve additional packages or freight), and periods of time during which a vehicle **100** and driver have returned to the shipping hub at the end of a day (e.g., navigating to the vehicle's parking space or waiting to complete documents).

As noted above, the telematics device **102** may be configured to detect when the vehicle **100** has entered or exited a particular geographic area, such as a geo-fenced area defining the shipping hub. Accordingly, in one embodiment, the data segmenting module **1000** reviews the telematics data in the user-selected operational data loaded by the central server **120** and identifies data indicating instances in which the vehicle **100** has entered or departed the geographical area defining the shipping hub (e.g., by identifying contextual data

indicating a logged reason for data capture was the vehicle entering or departing the shipping hub area and/or by identifying location-indicative telematics data and determining whether each indicated location is within the shipping hub area). The identified data would include data indicating instances in which the vehicle's engine was turned on or turned off while within the geo-fenced area. In addition, as noted earlier, a driver may manually indicate via the portable data acquisition device **110** when the vehicle has left a shipping hub property and when the vehicle has entered a shipping hub property. Furthermore, the portable data acquisition device **110** may also include a location sensor or other device configured to automatically determine when it has entered or exited a geo-fenced area, such as a shipping hub property. Accordingly, in another embodiment, the data segmenting module **1000** reviews the service data in the user-selected operational data loaded by the central server **120** and identifies data indicating instances in which the vehicle **100** has entered or departed the geographical area defining the shipping hub (e.g., in addition to, or in place of, reviewing the telematics data to identify On Property segments).

In addition, as noted earlier, a driver may input service data to the portable data acquisition device **110** indicating that the driver is beginning a work day at the shipping hub and is on the clock (e.g., before starting the vehicle **100**) or that the driver has is ending a work day and is now off the clock. As such, the data segmenting module **1000** next reviews the service data in the user-selected operational data set loaded by the central server **120** for data indicating that a driver is at the shipping hub and is starting a work day, and for data indicating that a driver is at the shipping hub and ending a work day.

Next, the data segmenting module **1000** reviews the identified instances noted above and composes initial On Property segments (e.g., beginning when the driver's work day starts, as indicated by service data, and ending when the vehicle first leaves the shipping hub area on a particular day, as indicated by telematics data), intermediate On Property segments (e.g., beginning when a vehicle reenters the shipping hub area and ending when the vehicle next leaves the shipping hub area as indicated by telematics data), and final On Property segments (e.g., beginning when the vehicle last reenters the shipping hub area, as indicated by telematics data, and ending when the driver's work day ends, as indicated by service data). Each On Property segment may then be stored in the Segmented Data Set for use in further analyses. For each identified On Property segment, the data segmenting module **1000** also reviews the telematics data in the loaded operational data to identify instances in which the vehicle's engine was turned on or off during a respective On Property segment. The data segmenting module **1000** then stores these engine-on/engine-off instances as engine-status points within the On Property segments in the Segmented Data Set. In one embodiment, each stored On Property segment is defined by data indicating the segment's start time (e.g., 08:15:43), end time (e.g., 08:45:12), segment type (e.g., On Property), and engine on/off instances within the segment (e.g., E-On: 08:32:15, E-Off: 17:32:45).

As will be appreciated from the description herein, in other embodiments, the data segmenting module **1000** may be configured to identify On Property segments according to other definitions of the segment. For example, in one embodiment, the data segmenting module **1000** may be configured such that initial On Property segments begin when a vehicle's engine is turned on while on the defined property (as opposed to when the driver's work day starts) and that final On Prop-

erty segments end when the vehicle's engine is turned off while on the defined property (as opposed to when the driver's work data ends).

Next, in step **1015**, the data segmenting module **1000** identifies and stores On Area segments indicated by the user-selected operational data loaded by the central server **120**. According to various embodiments, On Area segments generally represent periods of time when a vehicle **100** is located within a predefined delivery and/or pickup area (herein "delivery area"). A particular delivery area may comprise, for example, one or more residential neighborhoods and/or shopping areas and may be defined, for example, as a geo-fenced area.

As noted earlier, the telematics device **102** may be configured to detect when the vehicle **100** has entered or exited a predefined geographic area, such as a geo-fenced, driver-assigned delivery area. Accordingly, in one embodiment, the data segmenting module **1000** reviews the telematics data in the user-selected operational data loaded by the central server **120** and identifies data indicating instances in which the vehicle **100** has entered or departed a predefined delivery area (e.g., by identifying contextual data indicating a logged reason for data capture was the vehicle entering or departing a predefined delivery area and/or by identifying location-indicative telematics data and determining whether each indicated location is within a predefined delivery area). In addition, as noted earlier, a driver may manually indicate via the portable data acquisition device **110** when the vehicle has entered or exited a predefined delivery area. Accordingly, in another embodiment, the data segmenting module **1000** reviews the service data in the user-selected operational data loaded by the central server **120** and identifies data indicating instances in which the vehicle **100** has entered or exited the geographical area defining the delivery area (e.g., in addition to, or in place of, reviewing the telematics data to identify On Area segments).

Next, the data segmenting module **1000** reviews the identified instances noted above and composes On Area segments (e.g., beginning when the vehicle **100** enters a predefined delivery area and ending when the vehicle next exits the same predefined delivery area). The data segmenting module **1000** then stores each composed On Area segment in the Segmented Data Set for use in further analyses. As will be appreciated from the description herein, the data segmenting module **1000** may be configured to identify On Area segments associated with various unique delivery areas. Accordingly, in one embodiment, the data segmenting module **1000** is configured to store each identified On Area segment in association with contextual indicating the particular predefined delivery area to which it corresponds.

Next, in step **1016**, the data segmenting module **1000** identifies and stores Non-Travel Time to Stop segments indicated by the user-selected operational data loaded by the central server **120**. According to various embodiments, Non-Travel Time to Stop segments generally represent periods of time during which the vehicle **100** is not traveling and the driver is not at a stop engaging in a delivery, on the property of the shipping hub, or in the midst of a lunch, break, or delay. In other words, Non-Travel Time to Stop segments occur where the driver is between stops, but is not traveling and has not otherwise accounted for his or her time. To identify Non-Travel Time to Stop segments, the data segmenting module **1000** reviews the previously identified Start of Trip segments, Travel segments, End of Trip segments, On Property segments, Stop segments, Lunch segments, Break segments, and Delay segments, and identifies periods of time within the operational data loaded by the central server **120** not

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accounted for by any of the aforementioned segments. The data segmenting module **1000** then defines and stores these identified time periods as individual Non-Travel Time to Stop segments in the Segmented Data Set for use in further analyses. In one embodiment, each stored Non-Travel Time to Stop segment is defined by data indicating the segment's start time (e.g., 14:15:43), end time (e.g., 14:25:12), and segment type (e.g., Non-Travel Time to Stop).

Next, in step **1018**, the data segmenting module **1000** identifies and stores Backing segments indicated by the user-selected operational data loaded by the central server **120**. According to various embodiments, Backing segments generally represent periods of time during which the vehicle **100** is moving in a reverse direction. As noted above, the telematics device **102** may be configured to detect a vehicle event and capture telematics data in response to the vehicle **100** beginning, or ceasing, to move in a reverse direction. Accordingly, the data segmenting module **1000** identifies Backing segments by reviewing the telematics data in the operational data set loaded by the central server **120** and identifying instances in which the vehicle **100** begins to move in a reverse direction and ceases moving in a reverse direction (e.g., by reviewing contextual data for data indicating a logged reason for data capture was the vehicle **100** beginning or ceasing to move in a reverse direction and/or reviewing telematics data for data indicating the vehicle's direction status has changed to reverse or changed from reverse to forward). The data segmenting module **1000** then links chronologically adjacent Backing beginning and ending instances to compose individual Backing segments. The data segmenting module **1000** then stores the identified Backing segments in the Segmented Data Set for use in further analyses. In one embodiment, each stored Backing segment is defined by data indicating the segment's start time (e.g., 14:25:13), end time (e.g., 14:25:17), and segment type (e.g., Backing).

Next, in step **1020**, the data segmenting module **1000** identifies and stores Seat Belt Safety Hazard segments indicated by the telematics data in the user-selected operational data set loaded by the central server **120**. According to various embodiments, Seat Belt Safety Hazard segments generally represent periods of time during which the a vehicle's seat belt is disengaged while the vehicle is moving or while the vehicle's engine is on (e.g., idling). As noted above, the telematics device **102** is configured to detect a vehicle event and capture telematics data in response to either of these contingencies. Accordingly, the data segmenting module **1000** identifies any Seat Belt Safety Hazard segments by reviewing the telematics data in the loaded operational data and identifies data indicating instances in which the vehicle's seat belt is disengaged while the vehicle is either (i) moving and/or (ii) the engine is on. The data segmenting module **1000** then determines individual periods of time during which the criteria are true and composes individual Seat Belt Safety Hazard segments. The data segmenting module **1000** then stores the identified Seat Belt Safety Hazard segments in the Segmented Data Set for use in further analyses. In one embodiment, each stored Seat Belt Safety Hazard segment is defined by data indicating the segment's start time (e.g., 08:15:43), end time (e.g., 08:45:12), and segment type (e.g., Seat Belt Safety Hazard—Disengaged While Traveling, Seat Belt Safety Hazard—Disengaged While Engine On).

FIG. **11** illustrates a Gantt chart **1100** populated with exemplary activity segments identified by the data segmenting module **1000**. The chart **1100** illustrates vehicle and driver activity occurring between 9:30 and 10:54 on a particular day, for a particular driver, and for a particular vehicle. At 9:30, an On Property segment **1101** begins, indicating that a driver is

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at a shipping hub and has begun preparations for the day's delivery. A vertical line through a medial portion of the On Property segment indicates that the vehicle's engine has started at 9:48, and a short Travel segment and Backing segment **1102** are shown indicating the vehicle has been moved and then stopped. At approximately 9:53, the vehicle's engine is restarted and a Start of Trip segment **1103** is indicated. As the vehicle exits the area of the shipping hub at 9:54 to begin deliveries, the On Property segment **1101** ends.

The vehicle continues traveling to its first stop for approximately 30 minutes as indicated by the Travel segment **1104**. Throughout the Travel segment **1104**, the vehicle slows to a stop and its engine idles—presumably due to intersections and traffic—as indicated by various Travel Delay segments **1105**. At approximately 10:26, the vehicle comes to a stop and its engine is turned off, where a brief End of Trip segment necessarily occurs, but is too brief to be visible within the scale of the chart **1100**. The vehicle remains stopped from 10:16 until 10:29 prior to reaching the upcoming Stop and without corresponding to any Delay or Break. As such, this period is classified as a Non-Travel Time to Stop segment **1106**. The vehicle then resumes travel, stops briefly, and resumes travel again until arriving at the first stop at 10:44. As indicated by the Stop segment **1107**, the driver engages in delivery until at least 10:54 where the chart's **1100** visible time window ends. Although no Breaks, Delays, or Seat Belt Safety Hazard segments are detected, the chart **1100** includes linear, horizontal sections reserved for indicating such segments.

Employee Recap Module

As noted above in regard to FIG. **8**, the start-up view of the central server graphical user interface **800** provides a set of evaluation option tabs **825** associated with either the employee evaluation tab group **830** or the location evaluation tab group **840**. As each tab in the tab set **825** is associated with a particular operational data analysis performed by one of the modules **1000-2300**, a user may request a desired analysis by selecting one the tabs in the tab set **825**. As described in step **920** of FIG. **9**, in response to receiving a user-selection of one of the tabs in the tab set **825**, the central server **120** is configured to run the module associated with the tab to execute the operational data analysis requested by the user.

According to various embodiments, the employee recap module **1200** is generally configured for providing a summary of performance statistics for a particular driver on a particular day. In one embodiment, the employee recap module **1200** is associated with an employee recap tab **851** (shown in FIG. **13**). As such, the central server **120** is configured to run the employee recap module **1200** in response to a user's selection of the employee recap tab **851**.

FIG. **12** illustrates steps executed by the employee recap module **1200** to generate a performance summary for a selected driver according to one embodiment. Beginning at step **1202**, the employee recap module **1200** displays an employee recap view of the central server user interface **800**. FIG. **13** shows an employee recap view **800A** of the central server user interface **800** according to one embodiment. In the evaluation results display area **820**, the employee recap view **800A** displays a delivery statistics table **1251**, a time statistics table **1252**, a performance statistics table **1253**, a miles statistics table **1254**, a safety statistics table **1255**, and an overall statistics table **1256**. Although only tables **1251-1253** are visible in FIG. **13**, a scroll bar associated with the evaluation results display area **820** allows a user to move the display in order to view the remaining tables **1254-1256** (shown in FIG. **14**). In addition, the employee recap view **800A** includes a create report button **1260** configured to generate a printable

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recap report (e.g., a .pdf file) showing the tables **1251-1256**. FIG. **14** illustrates one embodiment of a recap report **1250** for a particular driver and date including the tables **1251-1256**. Furthermore, the employee recap view **800A** includes the various menus and options **802-809** and map display **810** of the start-up view shown in FIG. **8**.

Next, at step **1204**, the employee recap module **1200** calculates and displays pickup and delivery statistics for the user-specified driver and date based on the operational data loaded by the central server **120** (e.g., in step **906** of FIG. **9**). In particular, the employee recap module **1200** first reviews the loaded operational data and identifies data indicating a stop was made (e.g., by searching data fields of service data in the loaded operational data indicating a stop has commenced or ended). For each indicated stop, the employee recap module **1200** determines whether the stop was a pickup or delivery, how many bills of lading were picked up or delivered, and the weight of packages or freight picked up or delivered. In one embodiment, the employee recap module **1200** accomplishes this by searching data fields in the loaded operational data associated with each identified stop and retrieving data indicating stop type, bills of lading, and package or freight weight. The employee recap module **1200** then stores the retrieved data (e.g., in memory) and calculates the number of delivery stops, the number of pickup stops, the number of bills delivered, the number of bills picked up, the combined weight of packages and/or freight delivered, and the combined weight of packages picked up indicated by the retrieved data. The employee recap module **1200** also calculates a sum for the total number of stops, total number of bills, and total weight of packages and freight. The employee recap module **1200** then displays the results of these calculations in the delivery statistics table **1251**, as shown in FIGS. **13** and **14**. As such, the delivery statistics table **1251** indicates the number of pickup and delivery stops made, the number of bills of lading picked up and delivered, and the weight of freight and/or packages picked up or delivered by the user-selected driver on the user-selected date.

Next, at step **1206**, the employee recap module **1200** calculates and displays various time statistics for the user-specified driver and date based on the operational data loaded by the central server **120**. The employee recap module **1200** first reviews the loaded operational data and identifies data indicating instances where (i) the driver has begun the work day and is on the clock, (ii) the driver's vehicle **100** has exited the geo-fenced area of its respective shipping hub, (iii) the driver's vehicle **100** has entered the geo-fenced area of a designated delivery area, (iv) the driver's vehicle **100** has exited the geo-fenced area of a designated delivery area, (v) the driver's vehicle **100** has entered the geo-fenced area of its respective shipping hub, and (vi) the driver has ended the work day and is off the clock. For example, in one embodiment, the employee recap module **1200** reviews segmented data loaded by the central server **120** in chronological order, identifies On Property and On Area segments presented in the loaded segmented data, and retrieves and stores the start and end time for each identified On Property and On Area segment. The resulting stored times necessarily correspond to instances (ii)-(v) above. Next, the employee recap module **1200** reviews the service data in the loaded operational data, identifies data indicating the driver has begun or ended the work day (e.g., by reviewing logged reason for data capture fields associated with the service data), and retrieves and stores the times associated with these events (e.g., by reviewing contextual data fields indicating times associated with the identified data). These stored times necessarily correspond to instances (i) and (vi) above. The various instances (i)-(vi) and their

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corresponding time of occurrence may be stored, for example, in one of the central server's memory devices.

Next, the employee recap module **1200** displays identified time at which driver began the work day as the "Start Time" (e.g., 09:30) and the identified time at which the driver ended the work day as the "Finish Time" (e.g., 20:56) in the appropriate row of the time statistics table **1252**, as shown in FIGS. **13** and **14**.

Next, the employee recap module **1200** calculates and displays the driver's "pickup and delivery hours" based on the earlier identified instances. In various embodiments, pickup and delivery hours generally represent the amount of time the driver was off the property of the shipping hub and engaged in pickup and delivery activity (e.g., traveling to and from the shipping hub, time traveling between stops, and time performing pickups and deliveries at stops). Accordingly, in one embodiment, the employee recap module **1200** determines pickup and delivery hours by calculating the total elapsed time between the ending of the first identified On Property segment (e.g., the time at which the driver and vehicle exited the property of the shipping hub and began traveling to the first stop) and the beginning of the last identified On Property segment (e.g. the time at which the driver and vehicle reentered the property of the shipping hub and after completing a number of stops). The employee recap module **1200** then displays the result as the "Pu+Del Hours" in the appropriate row of the time statistics table **1252**, as shown in FIGS. **13** and **14**.

Next, the employee recap module **1200** calculates and displays the driver's "to from hours" based on the earlier identified instances. In various embodiments, to from hours generally represent the amount of time the driver and vehicle were traveling from the property of the shipping hub to a predefined delivery area (e.g., prior to completing any delivery or pickup stops) and from a predefined delivery area to the property of the shipping hub (e.g., after completing delivery and pickup stops). Accordingly, in one embodiment, the employee recap module **1200** determines the to from hours for the driver by calculating the total time elapsed between the ending of the first identified On Property segment and the beginning of the first identified On Area segment, as well as the total time elapsed between the ending of the last identified On Area segment and the time beginning of the last identified On Property segment. The employee recap module **1200** then sums the elapsed times and displays the result as "To From Hours" in the appropriate row of the time statistics table **1252**, as shown in FIGS. **13** and **14**.

Next, the employee recap module **1200** calculates and displays the driver's "lag hours" based on the earlier identified instances. In various embodiments, the lag hours generally represent the amount of time the driver and vehicle were preparing for deliveries on the property of the shipping hub before departing (pre run minutes) and the amount of time the driver and vehicle were completing a work day on the property of the shipping hub after returning from executing deliveries (post run minutes). Accordingly, in one embodiment, the employee recap module **1200** first determines and stores the total amount of pre run minutes by calculating the duration of the first identified On Property segment. Next, the employee recap module **1200** determines and stores the total amount of post run minutes by calculating the duration of the last identified On Property segment. The employee recap module **1200** then sums the values for pre run minutes and post run minutes and stores the result as the lag hours for the driver. The employee recap module **1200** then displays the "Lag

Hours,” “Pre Run Minutes,” and “Post Run Minutes” in the appropriate rows of the time statistics table 1252, as shown in FIG. 14.

Next, the employee recap module 1200 calculates and displays the driver’s “on area” hours based on the earlier identified instances. In various embodiments, the on area hours generally represent the amount of time the driver and vehicle are located within a predefined delivery area. Accordingly, in one embodiment, the employee recap module 1200 determines the on area hours for the driver by calculating the duration of the identified On Area segment (or total duration of all identified On Area segments if more than one is identified). The employee recap module 1200 then displays the result as “On Area Hours” in the appropriate row of the time statistics table 1252, as shown in FIGS. 13 and 14.

Next, the employee recap module 1200 calculates and displays the driver’s “stop hours” based on the earlier identified instances. In various embodiments, the stop hours generally represent the total amount of time the driver has spent performing stops. Accordingly, in one embodiment, the employee recap module 1200 reviews the loaded segmented data, identifies all stop segments, and sums the duration of all identified stop segments. The employee recap module 1200 then displays the result as “stop hours” in the appropriate row of the time statistics table 1252, as shown in FIG. 14.

Next, the employee recap module 1200 calculates and displays the driver’s “dispatch hours” based on the earlier identified instances. In various embodiments, the dispatch hours generally represent the amount of time the driver and vehicle are dispatched from the property of the shipping hub to perform deliveries and pickups. Accordingly, in one embodiment, the employee recap module 1200 determines the dispatch hours for the driver by summing the previously determined values for on area hours and to from miles. The employee recap module 1200 then displays the result as “Dispatch Hours” in the appropriate row of the time statistics table 1252, as shown in FIG. 14.

Next, the employee recap module 1200 retrieves and displays the “planned on property minutes” for the driver. In one embodiment, the employee recap module 1200 retrieves this value from the Planning Data Set stored on the central server database and displays the retrieved value in the appropriate row of the time statistics table 1252, as shown in FIG. 14. Next, the employee recap module 1200 reviews the service data in the operational data loaded by the central server 120 and retrieves values—if any—for the driver’s turn minutes, no run minutes, administration minutes, training minutes, and dock worker pickup and delivery minutes; each of which may have been entered into the portable data acquisition device 110. The employee recap module 1200 then displays the retrieved values in the appropriate rows of the time statistics table 1252, as shown in FIG. 14.

Next, at step 1208, the employee recap module 1200 calculates and displays various performance statistics for the user-specified driver and date based on the operational data loaded by the central server 120. According to one embodiment, the employee recap module 1200 first calculates the driver’s stops per pickup and delivery hour, stops per dispatch hour, and stop per area hour by dividing the total number of stops (e.g., 17) by the values for pickup and delivery hours, dispatch hours, and on area hours—respectively—as determined in step 1206. Next, the employee recap module 1200 calculates the driver’s bills per pickup and delivery hour, bills per dispatch hour, and bills per area hour by dividing the total number of bills (e.g., 29) by the values for pickup and delivery hours, dispatch hours, and on area hours—respectively—as determined in step 1206. The calculated values for stops per

pickup and deliver hour, stops per dispatch hour, stops per area hour, bills per pickup and delivery hour, bills per dispatch hour, and bills per area hour are then displayed in the performance statistics table 1253, as shown in FIG. 14.

Next, at step 1210, the employee recap module 1200 calculates and displays various distance statistics for the user-specified driver and date based on the operational data loaded by the central server 120. According to one embodiment, the employee recap module 1200 first reviews the service data in the loaded operational data and retrieves values for the driver’s total number of trips, to from miles, on area miles, and total miles; each of which may have been entered into the portable data acquisition device 110. In another embodiment, the employee recap module 1200 reviews the telematics data in the loaded operational data and determines values for the driver’s total number of trips, to from miles, on area miles, and total miles (e.g., from odometer-derived telematics data) for the user-specified date. Next, the employee recap module 1200 calculates the miles per stop for the driver by dividing the value determined for total miles (e.g., 184) by the earlier determined value for total number of stops (e.g., 17). The employee recap module 1200 then determines the driver’s total number of GPS miles for user-specified date based on telematics data in the loaded operational data (e.g., using the techniques for determining GPS miles described herein). The employee recap module 1200 then displays the determined values for total trips, to from miles, on area miles, total miles, GPS miles, and miles per stop in the miles statistics table 1254, as shown in FIG. 14.

Next, at step 1212, the employee recap module 1200 calculates and displays various safety statistics for the user-specified driver and date based on the operational data loaded by the central server 120. According to one embodiment, the employee recap module 1200 first reviews the segmented data loaded by the central server 120 and identifies seat belt safety hazard segments. The employee recap module 1200 then sums the duration of all segments stored as Seat Belt Safety Hazard—Disengaged While Traveling and stores the result as the total Seat Belt Off in Travel time. The employee recap module 1200 then sums the duration of all segments stored as Seat Belt Safety Hazard—Disengaged While Engine On and stores the result as the total Seat Belt Off with Engine On time. The employee recap module 1200 then displays the determined values for “Seat Belt Off in Travel” and “Seat Belt Off with Engine On” in the appropriate rows of the safety statistics table 1255, as shown in FIG. 14.

Next, the employee recap module 1200 reviews the segmented data loaded by the central server 120 and identifies vehicle backing segments. The employee recap module 1200 then counts the number of vehicle backing segments and stores the result as the total number of backing events for the driver. Next, the employee recap module 1200 determines the distance traveled by the vehicle 100 during each identified backing segment (e.g., by reviewing corresponding telematics data indicating odometer readings, by calculating the distance traveled based on GPS location of the vehicle at the beginning and end of each backing segment). The employee recap module 1200 then sums the distances traveled during each backing segment and divides this value by the total number of backing segments. The employee recap module 1200 then stores the result as the average vehicle backing distance for the driver. Next, the employee recap module 1200 determines the time elapsed during each identified vehicle backing segment, sums the elapsed times for the backing segments, and stores the result as the total backing time for the driver. The employee recap module 1200 then displays the determined values for “Total Backing Events,” “Average Dis-

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tance,” and “Total Backing Time” in the appropriate rows of the safety statistics table **1255**.

Next, the employee recap module **1200** calculates and displays the average vehicle speed for the user-selected driver's vehicle. In one embodiment, the employee recap module **1200** first determines the total distance traveled by the vehicle **100** on the user-specified date (e.g., by reviewing telematics data indicating odometer readings, by reviewing service data indicating user-entered distance data, by calculating distance based on GPS telematics data). Next, the employee recap module **1200** determines the total travel time for the vehicle by identifying travel segments in the loaded segmented data and summing the duration of the identified travel segments. The employee recap module **1200** then divides the total distance traveled by the vehicle by the total travel time and stores the result as the average speed of the vehicle. The employee recap module **1200** then displays the determined value for average speed as “Average MPH” in the safety statistics table **1255**.

In another embodiment, the employee recap module **1200** may be configured to calculate a corrected average speed. For example, the employee recap module **1200** first identifies travel delays in the loaded segmented data, sums the duration of the identified travel delays, and stores the result as the total travel delay time. The employee recap module **1200** then subtracts the total travel delay time from the vehicle's total travel time and stores the result as the corrected travel time. Next, the employee recap module **1200** divides the total distance traveled by the vehicle by the corrected travel time and stores and displays the result as the corrected average speed of the vehicle.

Next, at step **1214**, the employee recap module **1200** calculates and displays overall statistics for the user-specified driver. According to one embodiment, the employee recap module **1200** first calculates the number of bills per stop for the driver. For example, the employee recap module **1200** first reviews the loaded segmented data and counts the number of stop segments present in the data. The employee recap module **1200** then retrieves the total number of bill of lading for the driver (e.g., as determined in step **1204**) and divides the total number of bills by the total number of stops. The employee recap module **1200** then displays the result in the overall statistics table **1256**.

Next, the employee recap module **1200** reviews the service data in the loaded operational data and retrieves values for the number of freight stops, the number of driver handling units, the number of customer deliveries the driver must bring back to the shipping hub, and the number of freight deliveries the driver must bring back to the shipping hub. The employee recap module **1200** then displays these values in the overall statistics table **1256**. Next, the employee recap module determines the total idle time and idle percentage of engine run time for the driver. These values may be calculated, for example, in accordance with the methodologies described herein in relation to the employee fuel economy module **1600**. The determined values are then displayed as “Total Idle Time” and “ITER %” in the overall statistics table **1256**. Employee Timecard Module

According to various embodiments, the employee timecard module **1300** is generally configured for providing stop-by-stop information for a user-selected driver and user-selected day. In one embodiment, the employee timecard module **1300** is associated with an employee timecard tab **852** (shown in FIG. **16**). As such, the central server **120** is configured to run the employee timecard module **1300** in response to a user's selection of the employee timecard tab **852**.

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FIG. **15** illustrates steps executed by the employee timecard module **1300** to provide stop-by-stop information for a selected driver according to one embodiment. Beginning at step **1302**, the employee timecard module **1300** displays an employee timecard view of the central server user interface **800**. For example, FIG. **16** shows an employee timecard view **800B** of the central server user interface **800** according to one embodiment. In the illustrated embodiment, the employee timecard view **800B** displays a stop-by-stop information table **1351**, which indicates some or all of the following for each stop performed by the selected driver in unique information columns: the stop number (e.g., 1, 2, 3), the type of stop—indicated as “Type” (e.g., delivery or “DL,” pickup or “PU,” return to building or “RTB”), the distance in miles from the previous stop—indicated as miles-to-stop or “MTS” (e.g., 18.5 miles), the time when the driver begins the stop—indicated as “Stop Start” (e.g., 10:44:00), the time when the driver completes the stop—indicated as “Start Finish” (e.g., 10:54:00), the total time elapsed while executing the stop—indicated as “Stop Time” (e.g., 10.00 minutes), the time elapsed traveling from the previous stop—indicated as time-to-stop or “TTS” (e.g., 74.00 minutes), the total time elapsed traveling from the previous stop and executing the current stop—indicated as “Total Time” (e.g., 84.00 minutes), the amount of time the driver was on the property of a shipping hub during the time-to-stop period—indicated as “On Property” (e.g., 23.63 minutes), the amount of non-travel time to stop occurring between the completion of the previous stop and the beginning of the current stop—indicated as “Non-Travel TTS” (e.g., 5.85 minutes), the amount of pure travel time occurring between the completion of the previous stop and the beginning of the current stop indicated as “Pure Travel” (e.g., 45.37 minutes), the amount of lunch time occurring between the completion of the previous stop and beginning of the current stop—indicated as “Lunch” (e.g., 30.00 minutes), the amount of driver-coded delay time occurring between the completion of the previous stop and the beginning of the current stop—indicated as “Coded Delay” (e.g., 1.50 minutes), the total number of units, such as freight or packages, picked up or delivered at the current stop—indicated as “Handling Units” (e.g., 3 units), and the total weight of freight or packages picked up or delivered at the current stop—indicated as “Weight” (e.g., 131 pounds). Although the Lunch, Coded Delay, Handling Units, and Weight columns are not visible in FIG. **16**, a scroll bar associated with the evaluation results display area **820** allows a user to move the display in order to view those columns. In addition, the employee timecard view includes a create report button **1360** configured to generate a printable stop-by-stop report (e.g., a .pdf file) showing the stop-by-stop information table **1351**. FIG. **17** illustrates one embodiment of a stop-by-stop report for a particular driver and date including the stop-by-stop information table **1351**. Furthermore, the employee timecard view **800B** includes the various menus and options **802-809** and map display **810** of the start-up view shown in FIG. **8**.

Next, in step **1306**, the employee timecard module **1300** reviews the segmented data loaded by the central server **120** (e.g., in step **912** of FIG. **9**) in chronological order and identifies the first indicated stop segment. The identified first stop segment is then defined as the current stop as the employee timecard module **1300** performs steps **1310-1318**. Next, in step **1310**, the employee timecard module **1300** identifies and retrieves the stop type, stop start time, and stop finish time for the current stop from the loaded segmented data. In addition, the employee timecard module **1300** assigns a stop number to the current stop (e.g., by assigning “1” to the first identified stop and 2, 3, 4, etc. to successively identified stops). The

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employee timecard module **1300** then displays the retrieved stop number, stop type, stop start time, and stop finish time in the appropriate cells of the stop-by-stop information table **1351** as shown in FIGS. 16 and 17.

Next, in step **1311**, the employee timecard module **1300** determines and displays the miles traveled to the current stop (e.g., “miles to stop” or “MTS”). In one embodiment, the employee timecard module **1300** determines the miles to stop by first reviewing the operational data loaded by the central server **120** (e.g., in step **906** of FIG. 9) and retrieving telematics data that indicates the vehicle distance traveled (e.g., the vehicle’s odometer reading) and that was captured at the start of the current stop segment (e.g., when the vehicle’s engine was turned off, or when the vehicle **100** slowed to a stop immediately prior to the start of the stop segment). If the current stop segment is the first stop, the employee timecard module **1300** stores the retrieved distance data as the miles to stop for the first stop segment. If the current stop segment is not the first stop, the employee timecard module **1300** also retrieves telematics data that indicates vehicle distance traveled and that was captured at the end of the previous stop segment (e.g., when the vehicle’s engine was started, or when the vehicle **100** accelerated from standstill). The employee timecard module **1300** then subtracts the vehicle distance traveled at the end of the previous stop from the vehicle distance traveled at the beginning of the current stop and stores the result as the miles to stop for the current stop. The employee timecard module **1300** then displays the determined miles to stop for the current stop segment in the appropriate cell of the stop-by-stop information table **1351**, as shown in FIGS. 16 and 17. In other embodiments, the miles traveled to the current stop may be determined using telematics data (e.g., GPS vehicle position data) or service data (e.g., user entered distance data) in accordance with the various techniques described herein.

Next, in step **1312**, the employee timecard module **1300** calculates and displays the stop time, time to stop, and total time for the current stop. In one embodiment, the employee timecard module **1300** first determines the stop time by calculating the difference between the stop finish time and stop start time identified in step **1310**. Next, the employee timecard module **1300** identifies the stop finish time of the preceding stop or, where the current stop is the first stop, the start time of the preceding on-property segment. Next, the employee timecard module **1300** determines the time to stop by calculating the difference between the stop start time identified in step **1310** and the stop finish time of the preceding stop (or start time of the preceding on-property segment). Next, the employee timecard module **1300** calculates the total time for the current stop by summing the calculated stop time and time to stop. The employee timecard module **1300** then displays the calculated stop time, time to stop, and total time in the appropriate cells of the stop-by-stop information table **1351**, as shown in FIGS. 16 and 17.

Next, in step **1314**, the employee timecard module **1300** calculates and displays the on property time, non-travel time to stop, and pure travel time for the current stop. In one embodiment, the employee timecard module **1300** first reviews the loaded segmented data for any on property segments occurring between the stop start time of the current stop and the stop finish time of any preceding stop (e.g., as identified in step **1312**). For example, where the current stop is the first stop, the employee timecard module **1300** will recognize the On Property segment occurring at the beginning of the driver’s day. If an On Property segment is identified, the employee timecard module **1300** then determines the start time and finish time for the identified On Property segment

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and determines the On Property time—the duration of the On Property segment—by calculating the difference between the segment’s start time and finish time. Where multiple on property segments are identified between the stop start time of the current stop and the stop finish time of any preceding stop, this process is repeated and the employee timecard module **1300** sums the duration of the identified on property segments to determine the on property time.

The employee timecard module **1300** next reviews the loaded segmented data for any non-travel time to stop segments occurring between the stop start time of the current stop and the stop finish time of any preceding stop. If a non-travel time to stop segment is identified, the employee timecard module **1300** then determines the start time and finish time for the identified non-travel time to stop segment and determines the non-travel time to stop—the duration of the non-travel time to stop segment—by calculating the difference between the segment’s start time and finish time. Where multiple non-travel time to stop segments are identified between the stop start time of the current stop and the stop finish time of any preceding stop, this process is repeated and the employee timecard module **1300** sums the duration of the identified non-travel time to stop segments to determine the non-travel time to stop.

The employee timecard module **1300** next reviews the loaded segmented data for any travel segments occurring between the stop start time of the current stop and the stop finish time of any preceding stop. If a travel segment is identified, the employee timecard module **1300** then determines the start time and finish time for the identified travel segment and determines the pure travel time—the duration of the travel segment—by calculating the difference between the segment’s start time and finish time. Where multiple travel segments are identified between the stop start time of the current stop and the stop finish time of any preceding stop, this process is repeated and the employee timecard module **1300** sums the duration of the identified travel segments to determine the pure travel time. The employee timecard module **1300** then displays the calculated on property time, non-travel time to stop, and pure travel time in the appropriate cells of the stop-by-stop information table **1351**, as shown in FIGS. 16 and 17.

Next, in step **1316**, calculates and displays the lunch time and coded delay time for the current stop. In one embodiment, the employee timecard module **1300** first reviews the loaded segmented data for any lunch segments occurring between the start time of the current stop and the finish time of a preceding stop (e.g., as identified in step **1312**). If a lunch segment is identified, the employee timecard module **1300** then determines the start time and finish time for the identified lunch segment and determines the lunch time—the duration of the lunch segment—by calculating the difference between the segment’s start time and finish time.

The employee timecard module **1300** next reviews the loaded segmented data for any coded delay segments occurring between the start time of the current stop and the finish time of any preceding stop. If a coded delay segment is identified, the employee timecard module **1300** then determines the start time and finish time for the identified coded delay segment and determines the coded delay time—the duration of the coded delay segment—by calculating the difference between the segment’s start time and finish time. Where multiple coded delay segments are identified between the start time of the current stop and the finish time of a preceding stop, this process is repeated and the employee timecard module **1300** sums the duration of the identified coded delay segments to determine the coded delay time. The

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employee timecard module **1300** then displays the calculated lunch time and coded delay time in the appropriate cells of the stop-by-stop information table **1351**, as shown in FIG. **17**.

Next, in step **1318**, the employee timecard module **1300** determines and displays the handling units and weight for the current stop. In one embodiment, the employee timecard module **1300** first reviews the loaded operational data and retrieves service data indicating the number of units delivered or picked at the current stop, and the weight of freight or packages delivered or picked up at the current stop. The employee timecard module **1300** then displays the retrieved handling units and weight data in the appropriate cells of the stop-by-stop information table **1351**, as shown in FIG. **17**.

Next, in step **1320**, the employee timecard module **1300** determines whether there are additional stops in the loaded segmented data. In one embodiment, the employee timecard module **1300** executes step **1320** by reviewing the loaded segmented data for stop segments occurring after the current stop. If there is an additional stop segment, the employee timecard module **1300** moves to step **1322** where it identifies the next stop segment. As shown, the employee timecard module **1300** will then loop back through steps **1310-1320** and perform the aforementioned steps for the newly identified stop segment, which would be defined as the “current stop” for executing the steps **1310-1320**.

If there are no additional stop segments, the employee timecard module **1300** moves to step **1324**, where it determines and displays the miles to stop, total time, non-travel time to stop, pure travel time, lunch time, and coded delay time for the return to building trip. According to various embodiments, the return to building trip (“RTB”) represents the vehicle’s travel from the final stop (e.g., stop no. **17** in FIG. **17**) to the vehicle’s home shipping hub. In one embodiment, the employee timecard module **1300** first reviews the loaded segmented data and identifies the final On Property segment occurring after the finish time of the final stop segment (e.g., an On Property segment representing time the vehicle spends on the property of its home shipping hub at the end of a work day). The employee timecard module **1300** then retrieves the start and finish time for the final On Property segment, as well as the time of any engine on/off instances occurring during the final On Property segment.

Next, the employee timecard module **1300** determines the miles to stop for the return to building segment by first reviewing the loaded operational data and retrieving telematics data that indicates the vehicle distance traveled (e.g., the vehicle’s odometer reading) and that was captured when the vehicle’s engine was turned off during the identified On Property segment. The employee timecard module **1300** then retrieves telematics data that indicates vehicle distance traveled and that was captured at the end of the previous stop segment (e.g., when the vehicle’s engine was started, or when the vehicle **100** accelerated from standstill). The employee timecard module **1300** then subtracts the vehicle distance traveled at the end of the previous stop from the vehicle distance traveled at the engine-off point during the On Property segment and stores the result as the miles to stop for the return to building segment. The employee timecard module **1300** then determines the total time for the return to building trip by calculating the difference between the final On Property segment’s finish time and the finish time of the preceding stop segment.

Next, the employee timecard module **1300** reviews the loaded segmented data for any non-travel time to stop segments occurring between the start time of the final On Property segment and the finish time of the preceding stop segment. If a non-travel time to stop segment is identified, the

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employee timecard module **1300** then determines the start time and finish time for the identified non-travel time to stop segment and determines the non-travel time to stop—the duration of the non-travel time to stop segment—by calculating the difference between the segment’s start time and finish time. Where multiple non-travel time to stop segments are identified between the start time of the final On Property segment and the finish time of the preceding stop segment, this process is repeated and the employee timecard module **1300** sums the duration of the identified non-travel time to stop segments to determine the non-travel time to stop for the return to building trip.

The employee timecard module **1300** next reviews the loaded segmented data for any travel segments occurring between the start time of the final On Property segment and the finish time of the preceding stop segment. If a travel segment is identified, the employee timecard module **1300** then determines the start time and finish time for the identified travel segment and determines the pure travel time—the duration of the travel segment—by calculating the difference between the segment’s start time and finish time. Where multiple travel segments are identified between the start time of the final On Property segment and the finish time of the preceding stop segment, this process is repeated and the employee timecard module **1300** sums the duration of the identified travel segments to determine the pure travel time for the return to building trip.

The employee timecard module **1300** next calculates and displays the lunch time and coded delay time for the return to building trip. In one embodiment, the employee timecard module **1300** first reviews the loaded segmented data for any lunch segments occurring between the start time of the final On Property segment and the finish time of the preceding stop segment. If a lunch segment is identified, the employee timecard module **1300** then determines the start time and finish time for the identified lunch segment and determines the lunch time—the duration of the lunch segment—by calculating the difference between the segment’s start time and finish time.

The employee timecard module **1300** next reviews the loaded segmented data for any coded delay segments occurring between the start time of the final On Property segment and the finish time of the preceding stop segment. If a coded delay segment is identified, the employee timecard module **1300** then determines the start time and finish time for the identified coded delay segment and determines the coded delay time—the duration of the coded delay segment—by calculating the difference between the segment’s start time and finish time. Where multiple coded delay segments are identified between the start time of the final On Property segment and the finish time of the preceding stop segment, this process is repeated and the employee timecard module **1300** sums the duration of the identified coded delay segments to determine the coded delay time for the return to building trip. The employee timecard module **1300** then displays the determined the miles to stop, total time, non-travel time to stop, pure travel time, lunch time, and coded delay time for the return to building trip in the appropriate cells of the stop-by-stop information table **1351**, as shown in FIG. **17**.

Next, at step **1326**, the employee timecard module **1300** plots the each of the stops indicated in the stop-by-stop information table **1351** in the map display **810**. In one embodiment, the employee timecard module **1300** first reviews the loaded operational data and retrieves location data for each stop in the table **1351** (e.g., by identifying location data captured at each respective stop start time or finish time). Next, the employee timecard module **1300** plots each stop individu-

ally on the map display **810** (e.g., based on location data comprising GPS coordinates corresponding to each stop). For example, in one embodiment, delivery stops may be represented on the map display **810** by a certain shape and/or color (e.g., a blue square), while pickup stops are represented on the stop may display **1362** by another shape and/or color (e.g., yellow circles). The employee timecard module **1300** then automatically zooms the map display **810** such that each of the plotted stops is visible.

Employee Gantt Module

According to various embodiments, the employee Gantt module **1400** is generally configured for providing a graphical representation of employee and vehicle activity for a user-selected employee or vehicle on particular day. In particular, the employee Gantt module **1400** generates a Gantt chart of segments in the segmented data loaded by the central server (e.g., the segmented data loaded in step **912** of the FIG. **9**). In one embodiment, the employee Gantt module **1400** is associated with an employee Gantt tab **853** (shown in FIG. **19**). As such, the central server **120** is configured to run the employee Gantt module **1400** in response to a user's selection of the employee Gantt tab **853**.

FIG. **15** illustrates steps executed by the employee Gantt module **1400** to generate a Gantt chart of employee and vehicle activity according to one embodiment. Beginning at step **1402**, the employee Gantt module **1400** displays an employee Gantt view of the central server user interface **800**. For example, FIG. **19** shows an employee Gantt view **800C** of the central server user interface **800** according to one embodiment. In the illustrated embodiment, the employee Gantt view **800C** displays a Gantt chart **1452** and interval selector **1462**. As described in greater detail below, the employee Gantt view **800C** further includes a current time indicator **1455**, chart scroll bar **1458**, current time display **1460**, and a vehicle position indicator **1465**. Furthermore, the employee Gantt view **800C** includes the various menus and options **802-809** and map display **810** of the start-up view shown in FIG. **8**, which permit the user to navigate to select different data and different user interface views.

As shown in FIG. **19**, the Gantt chart **1452** shown in the employee Gantt view **800C** includes a vertical axis comprising a plurality of activity segment rows **1453** each associated with a unique activity segment, and a horizontal axis comprising a plurality of time markers **1454**. In the illustrated embodiment, the activity segment rows **1453** are comprised of an On Property Time row, Non-Travel Time to Stop row, Stop Time row, Travel row, Travel Delays row, Backing row, Lunch row, Delay Codes row, and Seat Belt row. According to various other embodiments, the activity segment rows **1453** may further include unique rows for any other activity segment identified by the data segmenting module **1000**. In addition, in the illustrated embodiment, the Gantt chart's time markers **1454** comprise a plurality of hash marks scaled to indicate one minute increments of time. The scale of the time markers **1454**—and thereby the scale of the Gantt chart **1452**—may be adjusted by the user via the interval selector **1462** (e.g., where setting the selector to “1” sets the time markers to one minute increments, setting the selector to “5” sets the time markers to five minute increments, and so on).

Next, at step **1404**, the employee Gantt module **1400** plots activity segments in the user-selected data on the Gantt chart **1452**. According to one embodiment, the employee Gantt module **1400** executes step **1404** by first identifying segments in the segmented data loaded by the central server **120** (e.g., the data loaded in step **912** of FIG. **9**). The employee Gantt module **1400** then plots each identified segment in the appropriate one of the Gantt chart's activity rows **1453** based on

each identified segment's type (e.g., On Property, Non-Travel Time to Stop, etc.) and in the appropriate position based on each identified segment's start and finish time. For example, as shown in FIG. **19**, the employee Gantt module **1400** generates a graphical representation of each activity segment comprising a rectangular block having a left edge aligned with the timer marker **1454** corresponding to the activity's start time, a right edge aligned with the time marker **1454** corresponding to the activity's finish time, and a top and bottom edges defining the segment within one of the activity rows **1453**.

In particular, at step **1404**, the employee Gantt module **1400** divides On Property segments into block sections representing On Property time during which the vehicle's engine is off and On Property time during which the vehicle's engine is on (e.g., by dividing the On Property segment block with a vertical line indicating the point at which the engine is turned on or off). In addition, in one embodiment, the employee Gantt module **1400** presents identified Start of Trip, Travel, and End of Trip segments in the “Travel” activity row of the Gantt chart **1452**, the Start of Trip and End of Trip segments flanking each Travel segment. The employee Gantt module **1400** also identifies any represented Stop segments and displays the stop number (e.g., “1”) and stop type (e.g., delivery or “DL”) adjacent each Stop segment block. As will be appreciated from the description herein, the employee Gantt module **1400** may determine the stop number and stop type using, for example, the methods described above in relation to the employee timecard module **1300**. Further, in one embodiment, the employee Gantt module **1400** calculates the duration of each represented activity segment and displays the duration within the activity segment block (where the Gantt chart's resolution permits). In addition, in one embodiment, the employee Gantt module **1400** displays the various identified activity segments in a color-coded arrangement (e.g., all On Property segments are green, all Non-Travel Time to Stop segments are yellow, etc.).

According to various embodiments, the Gantt chart **1452** displays the plotted activity segments occurring during a certain time window. For example, in the employee Gantt view **800C** shown in FIG. **19**, the Gantt chart **1452** displays segments occurring between approximately 11:00 AM and 12:45 PM. As described in greater detail below, in various embodiments, a user may adjust the time window displayed in the Gantt chart **1452** using the chart scroll bar **1458** and interval selector **1462**.

Next, at step **1406**, the employee Gantt module **1400** plots the path of the vehicle **100**—as indicated by the user-selected data—on the map display **810**. According to one embodiment, the employee Gantt module **1400** executes step **1406** by retrieving location data present in the operational data loaded by the central server **120** (e.g., the data loaded in step **906**), as well as corresponding data indicating the time each individual location data point was captured. The employee Gantt module **1400** then plots each individual location data point on the map display **810** and connects the plotted points in chronological order with lines representing the path of the vehicle **100**.

Next, at step **1408**, the employee Gantt module **1400** displays and synchs the current time indicator **1455** and the vehicle position indicator **1465**. In the illustrated embodiment of FIG. **19**, the current time indicator **1455** comprises a vertical bar disposed on the Gantt chart **1452** at one of the time markers **1454**. The vehicle position indicator **1465** comprises an image of a truck positioned adjacent a highlighted point along the vehicle path plotted in step **1406**. According to various embodiments, the location of the vehicle position

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indicator **1465** on the map display **810** corresponds to the position of the current time indicator **1455**. For example, in FIG. **19**, the current time indicator **1455** is positioned at 11:44 and, thus, the vehicle position indicator **1465** is positioned at the point along the plotted path where the vehicle **100** was located at 11:44. According to one embodiment, in step **1408**, the employee Gantt module **1400** first positions the current time indicator **1455** in a default position (e.g., 10:00). Next, the employee Gantt module **1400** reviews the loaded operational data, identifies the location of the vehicle **100** at the default time (or the location at the time nearest to the default time indicated in the operational data), and places the vehicle position indicator **1465** at the identified location on the map display **810** (e.g., based on retrieved location data, such as GPS coordinates).

Next, at step **1410**, the employee Gantt module **1400** monitors the employee Gantt view **800C** of the user interface for user input requesting changes to the displayed Gantt chart **1452** and/or map display **810**. For example, in the illustrated embodiment, the employee Gantt module **1400** is configured to monitor for user requests to change the time mark intervals (e.g., via the interval selector **1462**), change the time window displayed by the Gantt chart **1452** (e.g., via the chart scroll bar **1458**), change the current time setting (e.g., by dragging the current time indicator **1455**, dragging the vehicle position indicator **1465**, or inputting a time into the current time display **1460**), and change the view of the map display **810** (e.g., by zooming or panning the display).

Accordingly, at step **1412**, the employee Gantt module **1400** determines whether a user has adjusted the time window displayed by the Gantt chart **1452**. For example, a user may adjust the time window by moving the chart scroll bar **1458** (e.g., right to adjust the time window forward in time and left to adjust the time window back in time). If the employee Gantt module **1400** has not detected an adjustment to the time window of the Gantt chart **1452**, it moves to step **1416**. If the employee Gantt module **1400** has detected a time window adjustment, it moves to step **1414**. At step **1414**, the employee Gantt module adjusts the Gantt chart **1452** to display activity segments within the time window corresponding to the position of the scroll bar **1458** at any given time. For example, where a user slides the chart scroll bar **1458**, the employee Gantt module **1400** moves the activity segments and time intervals **1454** displayed in the Gantt chart **1452** in unison with the movement of the scroll bar **1458**. Likewise, where a user selects a new point along the chart scroll bar **1458**, the employee Gantt module **1400** automatically adjust the Gantt chart **1452** to display activity segments occurring within the corresponding time window.

Next, at step **1416**, the employee Gantt module **1400** determines whether a user has adjusted the time marker intervals. For example, a user may use the interval selector **1462** to change the interval setting from "1" (e.g., one minute increments) to "10" (e.g., ten minute increments). If the employee Gantt module **1400** has not detected an adjustment to the time marker intervals, it moves to step **1420**. If the employee Gantt module **1400** has detected an adjustment, it moves to step **1418**. At step **1418**, the employee Gantt module **1400** first adjusts the scale of the time markers **1454** to the setting selected by the user. As adjusting the scale of the time markers **1454** necessarily changes the time window displayed by the Gantt chart **1452**, the employee Gantt module **1400** next adjusts the Gantt chart **1452** to display only those segments present within the new time window (e.g., as described above in relation to step **1414**).

Next, at step **1420**, the employee Gantt module **1400** determines whether the user has adjusted the current time setting.

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For example, a user may adjust the current time setting by repositioning the current time indicator **1455** at a particular point on the Gantt chart **1452** (e.g., by clicking on a portion of the Gantt chart **1452**), dragging the current time indicator **1455** along the Gantt chart **1452**, repositioning the vehicle position indicator **1465** at a particular point on the map display **810** (e.g., by clicking on a portion of the vehicle path displayed in the map display **810**, which corresponds to a particular time when the vehicle was present at that location), dragging the vehicle position indicator **1465** along the vehicle path displayed in the map display **810**, or inputting a time into the current time display **1460**. If the employee Gantt module **1400** has not detected an adjustment to current time setting, it moves to step **1424**. If the employee Gantt module **1400** has detected an adjustment, it moves to step **1422**.

At step **1422**, the employee Gantt module **1400** adjusts the position of the current time indicator **1455** and vehicle position indicator **1465** in response to the user's input. For example, where the user clicks on a point on the Gantt chart **1452** or drags the current time indicator **1455** itself, the employee Gantt module **1400** first moves the current time indicator **1455** in response to the user input and displays the corresponding current time in the current time display **1460** (e.g., based on the position of the current time indicator **1455** in relation to the time markers **1454**). The employee Gantt module **1400** then determines the location of the vehicle **100** at the new current time setting (e.g., by reviewing the loaded operational data and identifying location data corresponding to the current time setting, or time nearest to the current time setting) and repositions the vehicle position indicator **1465** at the identified location on the map display **810**. Likewise, where the user inputs a current time into the current time display **1460**, the employee Gantt module **1400** first moves the current time indicator **1455** to the time marker **1454** corresponding to the input time. The employee Gantt module **1400** then determines the location of the vehicle **100** at the new current time setting (e.g., as described above) and repositions the vehicle position indicator **1465** at the identified location on the map display **810**. Similarly, where the user clicks on a point on the map display **810** or drags the vehicle position indicator **1465** itself, the employee Gantt module **1400** first moves the vehicle position indicator **1465** in response to the user input. The employee Gantt module **1400** then determines the location of the vehicle position indicator **1465** based on its new position on the map display **810** and determines the current time setting corresponding to the new location (e.g., by reviewing the loaded operational data and identifying the time data corresponding to the new location). The employee Gantt module **1400** then repositions the current time indicator **1455** in accordance with the identified current time and displays the new current time in the current time display **1460**.

Next, at step **1424**, the employee Gantt module **1400** determines whether the user has adjusted the view of the map display **810**. For example, in various embodiments, the map display **810** includes typical graphical map controls, such as zoom-in/zoom-out buttons and a pan feature that allows a user to click on the map display **810** itself and move the displayed geographical area. If the employee Gantt module **1400** has not detected an adjustment to view of the map display **810**, it loops back to step **1410** and continues monitoring the user interface for user input requesting changes to the current display of the employee Gantt view **800C** of the user interface. If the employee Gantt module **1400** has detected an adjustment, it moves to step **1426**, where the employee Gantt module **1400** adjusts the view of the map display **810** in accordance with the detected user input (e.g.,

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by zooming in or out on the map or panning the view of the map). After completing step **1426**, the employee Gantt module **1400** loops back to step **1410** and continues monitoring the user interface for user input requesting changes to the current display of the employee Gantt view **800C** of the user interface.

According to various embodiments, the employee Gantt view **800C** of the user interface **800** may also include a playback button. For example, in one embodiment, the employee Gantt module **1400** is configured to animate the vehicle position indicator **1465** in response to a user's selection of the playback button. In such embodiments, the employee Gantt module **1400** "plays" the loaded operational and segmented data such that the current time indicator **1455** moves across the Gantt chart **1452** at a predefined speed in relation to the time markers **1454** (e.g., a real-time setting, slow motion setting, fast motion setting). As the current time indicator **1455** moves across the Gantt chart **1452**, the employee Gantt module **1400** moves the vehicle position indicator **1465** along the vehicle path shown in the map display **810** such that the vehicle position indicator's location always represents the location the vehicle **100** at the time indicated by the current time indicator **1455**. As such, playback button allows the user to view the movement of the current time indicator **1455** and vehicle position indicator **1465** simultaneously.

As noted above, the employee Gantt module **1400** displays the various identified activity segments in a color-coded arrangement in the Gantt chart **1464**. In one embodiment, the employee Gantt module **1400** is further configured to display the vehicle position indicator **1465** at a given time in the same color as an activity segment occurring at that time. For example, where the current time indicator **1455** is positioned over a Travel segment, the employee Gantt module **1400** will display the vehicle position indicator **1465** in the same color as the Travel segment block in the Gantt chart **1452**. In addition, in further embodiments, the employee Gantt view **800C** of the user interface **800** may also include a "print" button that allows the user to generate a report (e.g., a PDF or Excel file) comprising one or more views of the Gantt chart **1452** and/or the map display **810**.

Employee Delay Code Module

According to various embodiments, the employee delay code module **1500** is generally configured for providing delay code information for a user-selected driver and user-selected day. In one embodiment, the employee delay code module **1500** is associated with an employee delay code tab **854** (shown in FIG. **21**). As such, the central server **120** is configured to run the employee delay code module **1500** in response to a user's selection of the employee delay code tab **854**.

FIG. **20** illustrates steps executed by the employee delay code module **1500** to provide delay code information for a selected driver according to one embodiment. Beginning at step **1502**, the employee delay code module **1500** displays an employee delay code view of the central server user interface **800**. For example, FIG. **21** shows an employee delay code view **800D** of the central server user interface **800** according to one embodiment. In the illustrated embodiment, the employee delay code view **800D** displays a delay code table **1552**, which indicates some or all of the following for each delay code entered by a driver: the delay code's type (e.g., Exception Delay or "ED", Bring Back or "BB"), the delay code's start time (e.g., 14:32:00), the delay code's end time (e.g., 15:02:00), the total time of the delay code (e.g., 30 minutes), a brief description of the delay code (e.g., Lunch, Stuck in Traffic, Waiting for Door, Fueling Vehicle, Train Tracks, Waiting at Security, Waiting for Freight, Waiting for

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Bill of Lading), and a brief description of the location where user was when the delay code was entered (e.g., a postal address, lunch, returning to yard). In addition, the employee delay code view **800D** includes the various menus and options **802-809** and map display **810** of the start-up view shown in FIG. **8**.

Next, at step **1504**, the employee delay code module **1500** reviews the segmented data loaded by the central server **120** (e.g., in step **912** of FIG. **9**) in chronological order and identifies the first indicated delay code segment. The first identified delay code segment is then defined as the current delay code as the employee delay code module **1500** performs steps **1504-1512**. Next, in step **1506**, the employee delay code module **1500** identifies and retrieves the delay code type, start time, end time, brief description, and location for the current delay code from the loaded segmented data. The employee delay code module **1500** then displays the retrieved type, start time, end time, brief description, and location for the current delay code in the appropriate cells of the delay code table **1552** as shown in FIG. **21**.

Next, at step **1508**, the employee delay code module **1500** calculates and displays the total time for the current delay code. For example, in one embodiment, the employee delay code module **1500** determines the total time by calculating the difference between the current delay code's start time and finish time retrieved in step **1506**. The employee delay code module **1500** then displays the calculated total time in the appropriate cell of the delay code table **1552**.

Next, at step **1510**, the employee delay code module **1500** determines whether there are additional delay codes in the loaded segmented data. In one embodiment, the employee delay code module **1500** executes step **1510** by reviewing the retrieved segmented data for delay code segments occurring after the current delay code. If there is an additional delay code segment, the employee delay code module **1500** moves to step **1512** where it identifies the next delay code segment and defines it as the new current delay code. As shown in FIG. **20**, the employee delay code module **1500** will then loop back through steps **1506-1510** and perform the aforementioned steps for the new current delay code.

If there are no additional delay code segments, the employee delay code module **1500** moves to step **1514**, where it plots the location of each delay code segment identified and displayed in the delay code table **1552**. For example, in one embodiment, the employee delay code module **1500** executes step **1514** by retrieving the location data associated with each identified delay code segment and graphically representing each segment by plotting an indicator (e.g., a circle or square) on the map display **810**. In addition, the employee delay code module **1500** may further plot travel path of the vehicle **100** on the map display **810** (e.g., using the methodologies described herein).

According to various embodiments, the employee delay code module **1500** may be further configured to highlight (or otherwise identify) the location of a delay code segment on the map display **810** in response to the segment being selected by a user from the delay code table **1552**. Likewise, the employee delay code module **1500** may be configured to highlight (or otherwise identify) a delay code segment on the delay code table **1552** in response to the segment being selected by a user from the map display **810**. In addition, the employee delay code module **1500** may be configured to sort the delay code segments shown in the delay code table **1552** according to any of the attributes displayed in the table **1552**. For example, in response to a user selecting the "total time" column heading, the employee delay code module **1500** will

group and display the identified delay code segments according to their total time (e.g., with the longest duration at the top of the table 1552).

In certain embodiments, the employee delay code module 1500 is further configured to identify abnormal delay code segments indicating potentially unauthorized vehicle operator behavior. For example, in various embodiments, the employee delay code module 1500 may be configured to identify delay code segments having one or more predefined delay code attributes that meet one or more predefined abnormality criteria. In one embodiment, the predefined abnormality criteria may include a delay code duration that is within a certain percentage of the highest delay code durations for operational data being assessed (e.g., where the employee delay code module 1500 identifies the delay codes having the top 10% longest durations as abnormal delay codes). In another embodiment, the predefined abnormality criteria may include a delay code duration that exceeds a predefined duration limit associated with a particular delay code description (e.g., where the employee delay code module 1500 identifies lunch delay codes exceeding 30 minutes, traffic delay codes exceeding 15 minutes, and fueling vehicle delay codes exceeding 10 minutes). In yet another embodiment, the predefined abnormality criteria may include a delay code segment having a start time occurring proximate the end of a non-travel time to stop segment and/or a delay code segment having an end time occurring proximate the beginning of a non-travel time to stop segment (e.g., where the delay code segments begins with one minute of the end of a non-travel time to stop segment or ends within one minute of the beginning of a non-travel time to stop segment). In yet another embodiment, the predefined abnormality criteria may include a delay code location (i.e., the location where a delay code was generated) that is more than a predefined distance from a predefined planned route associated with a driver or other vehicle operator generating the delay code (e.g., where the employee delay code module 1500 identifies delay codes generated from the portable data acquisition 110 when the portable data acquisition device 110 is located—based on GPS data for example—more than 100 feet from a predefined planned delivery route associated with the driver or vehicle operator that is associated with the portable data acquisition device 110). In certain embodiments, the distance of the portable data acquisition device 110 from a predefined delivery route may be determined using techniques analogous to those described in relation to the map update module, the off-course travel module, and FIGS. 45-51, which are discussed later herein.

Employee Safety Module

According to various embodiments, the central server 120 may further include an employee safety module (not shown) configured for providing various safety information for a user-selected driver and vehicle over a defined period of time (e.g., a user-selected day). In one embodiment, the employee safety module is associated with an employee safety tab 855 (shown in FIG. 40). As such, the central server 120 is configured to run the employee safety module in response to a user's selection of the employee safety tab 855.

FIG. 40 shows an employee safety view 800M of the central server user interface 800 generated by the employee safety module according to one embodiment. As shown in FIG. 40, the employee safety module is configured to review operational data for a user-selected driver on a user-selected date and determine and display the start time, stop number, address, number of packages, stop type, duration, distance, and speed of each of the selected driver's vehicle backing events. According to various embodiments, the employee

safety module may accomplish this by reviewing the segmented data loaded by the central server 120 for backing segments and determining the above-described information for each individual backing segment based on the loaded operational data.

In addition, the employee safety module is configured to determine the driver's total number of vehicle backing events, total backing distance, average backing distance, total backing time, average speed of backing events, number of backing first exceptions, number of residential backing events, total distance of residential backing events, average distance of residential backing events, and total residential backing time. For example, in one embodiment, the employee safety module reviews the segmented data loaded by the central server 120 and identifies vehicle backing segments. The employee safety module then counts the number of vehicle backing segments and stores the result as the total number of backing events for the driver.

Next, the employee safety module determines the distance traveled by the vehicle 100 during each identified backing segment (e.g., by reviewing corresponding telematics data indicating odometer readings, by calculating the distance traveled based on GPS location of the vehicle at the beginning and end of each backing segment). The employee safety module then sums the distances traveled during each backing segment and stores this value as the total backing distance. The employee safety module then divides the total backing distance value by the total number of backing segments and stores the result as the average vehicle backing distance for the driver. Next, the employee safety module determines the time elapsed during each identified vehicle backing segment, sums the elapsed times for the backing segments, and stores the result as the total backing time for the driver. Based on the total backing time and total backing distance, the employee safety module then calculates the average backing speed for the driver and stores the result. The employee safety module then displays these calculated statistics on the user interface 800M.

In certain embodiments, the employee safety module is further configured for determining the above-described number of backing events, total backing distance, average distance, total backing time, and average backing speed statistics for specific geographical areas. For example, in the illustrated embodiment of FIG. 40, the employee safety module is configured for determining the number of residential backing events, total distance of residential backing events, average distance of residential backing events, and total residential backing time. In one embodiment, the employee safety module determines these statistics by identifying backing segments occurring within a residential area (e.g., by comparing the location of the backing segments with geo-fenced residential areas stored by the central server) and utilizing the above-described techniques to thereafter calculate residential area specific statistics.

In addition, in the illustrated embodiment, the employee safety module determines the number of first backing exceptions. When vehicle backing is performed prior to making a stop, the driver typically is able to view the area into which the vehicle will be backed just before performing the backing. In contrast, when the backing is performed after completing the stop, a safety risk may arise in the time elapsed since the driver last viewed the backing area (e.g., an object or individual may move into the backing path). Accordingly, the employee safety module may be generally configured to identify instances in which the driver backs a vehicle after completing a stop, as opposed to before completing a stop (herein a "backing first exception").

In various embodiments, the employee safety module may be configured to identify backing first exceptions by comparing backing segments in the loaded segmented data to certain service data, telematics data, or both. For example, in one embodiment, the employee safety module is configured to identify backing segments occurring shortly after a package is indicated as being delivered (e.g., identifying backing segments beginning within two minutes after a package is indicated as delivered). In such embodiments, the employee safety module may identify these backing segments by comparing the times at which the identified backing segments begin to package delivery times indicated by the service data.

In another embodiment, the employee safety module is configured to identify backing segments occurring proximate to the completion of a delivery stop (e.g., identifying backing segments beginning within two minutes after a stop segment ends). In such embodiments, the employee safety module may identify these backing segments by comparing the times at which backing segments begin to times at which stop segments end as indicated by the service data.

In another embodiment, the employee safety module is configured to identify backing segments occurring proximate to the ignition of the vehicle's engine (e.g., identifying backing segments beginning within two minutes after the vehicle's engine is started). In such embodiments, the employee safety module may identify these backing segments by comparing the times at which backing segments begin to times at which start of trip segments begin as indicated by the telematics data.

Employee Fuel Economy Module

According to various embodiments, the employee fuel economy module **1600** is generally configured for providing fuel economy information based on vehicle engine idle time for a user-selected driver or vehicle over a defined period of time (e.g., a user-selected day). In one embodiment, the employee fuel economy module **1600** is associated with an employee fuel economy tab **856** (shown in FIG. 23). As such, the central server **120** is configured to run the employee fuel economy module **1600** in response to a user's selection of the employee fuel economy tab **856**.

FIG. 22 illustrates steps executed by the employee fuel economy module **1600** to provide fuel economy information for a user-selected driver or vehicle according to one embodiment. Beginning at step **1602**, the employee fuel economy module **1600** displays an employee fuel economy view of the central server user interface **800**. For example, FIG. 23 shows an employee fuel economy view **800E** of the central server user interface **800** according to one embodiment. In the illustrated embodiment, the employee fuel economy view **800E** displays an idle segment table **1652**, a fuel economy statistics table **1654**, and an idle time filter menu **1656**.

As shown in FIG. 23, the idle segment table **1652** provides a list of engine idle segments occurring during the user-defined period for the user-selected vehicle (or vehicle associated with a user-selected driver). For each engine idle segment, the idle segment table **1652** indicates the event number (e.g., 1, 2, 3, etc.), the start time of the idle segment (e.g., 09:48:03), the idle type indicated by the segment (e.g., Start of Trip, During Travel, End of Trip), and the duration or "idle time" of the segment (e.g., 00:08). The fuel economy statistics table **1654** provides a plurality of Start of Trip idle segment statistics, During Travel idle segment statistics, End of Trip idle segment statistics, and overall idle time statistics. For example, the Start of Trip, During Travel, and End of Trip idle segment statistics indicate—for each idle segment type—the total number of idle segments (or "events"), the total duration of idle segments, the average duration of idle

segments, and the longest idle segment. In addition, the overall engine idle time statistics indicate the vehicle number of the vehicle from which the idle time statistics were derived, the total engine idle time, the total engine running time, the idle percentage of total engine runtime, the total number of idle time events, the amount of idle time per GPS mile, and the maximum idle time event.

Although only a portion of the aforementioned statistics are illustrated in the fuel economy statistics table **1654** shown in FIG. 23, the employee fuel economy user interface view **800E** includes a scroll bar associated with the table **1654** that allows a user to move the displayed table **1654** in order to view the remaining statistics. Likewise, the employee fuel economy view **800E** includes a scroll bar associated with the idle segment table **1652** that allows a user to move the displayed table **1652** in order to view idle segments not shown in FIG. 23. In addition, the employee fuel economy view **800E** includes a create report button **1658** configured to generate a printable fuel economy report (e.g., a .pdf or Excel® file) showing the idle segment table **1652** and fuel economy statistics table **1654**. FIG. 24 illustrates one embodiment of a printable fuel economy report **1650** showing the fuel economy statistics table **1654** of FIG. 23 in its entirety, and greater portion of the idle segment table **1652** of FIG. 23.

Referring back to FIG. 23, the employee fuel economy view **800E** further includes an idle time filter menu **1656**, which comprises Start of Trip segment, During Travel segment, and End of Trip segment filter options presented as selectable boxes associated with idle segment type. As noted earlier, according to one embodiment, the data segmenting module **1000** is configured to define all identified engine idle segments as Start of Trip idle segments, During Travel idle segments, or End of Trip idle segments. The idle time filter menu **1656** permits a user to define which of these idle segment types are analyzed and represented in the idle segment table **1652** and fuel economy statistics table **1654**. In addition to the tables **1652**, **1654** and filter menu **1656**, the employee fuel economy view **800E** further includes the various menus and options **802-809** and map display **810** of the start-up view shown in FIG. 8.

Next, at step **1606**, the employee fuel economy module **1600** reviews the segmented data loaded by the central server **120** (e.g., in step **912** of FIG. 9) in chronological order and identifies the first indicated engine idle segment. The identified first idle segment is then defined as the current idle segment as the employee fuel economy module **1600** performs steps **1608-1612**. Next, at step **1608**, the employee fuel economy module **1600** determines and displays the idle event number, start time, idle type, and idle time for the current idle segment. For example, in one embodiment, the employee fuel economy module **1600** retrieves the current idle segment's start time, end time, and idle type from the loaded segmented data. The employee fuel economy module **1600** then determines the duration, or "idle time," of the current idle segment by calculating the difference between the retrieved start time and stop time. Next, the employee fuel economy module **1600** assigns an idle event number to the current idle segment (e.g., by assigning "1" to the first identified idle segment and 2, 3, 4, etc. to successively identified idle segments). The employee fuel economy module **1600** then displays the determined idle event number, start time, idle type, and idle time for the current idle segment in the idle segment table **1652**.

Next, at step **1610**, the employee fuel economy module **1600** determines whether there are additional engine idle segments in the loaded segmented data. In one embodiment, the employee fuel economy module **1600** executes step **1610** by reviewing the loaded segmented data for engine idle seg-

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ments occurring after the current idle segment. If there is an additional idle segment, the employee fuel economy module **1600** moves to step **1612** where it identifies the next engine idle segment and defines it as the new current idle segment. As shown in FIG. 22, the employee fuel economy module **1600** will then loop back through steps **1608** and **1610** and perform the aforementioned steps for the new current idle segment.

If there are no additional engine idle segments, the employee fuel economy module **1600** moves to step **1614**, where the employee fuel economy module **1600** calculates overall idle statistics for the idle segments identified and displayed in the idle segment table **1652**. In one embodiment, the employee fuel economy module **1600** executes step **1614** by first retrieving the user-selected vehicle number (e.g., the vehicle number associated with the user-selected driver as indicated in the driver menu **806**). This number is then stored as the vehicle number associated with the data presented in the idle segment table **1652** and fuel economy statistics table **1654**. The employee fuel economy module **1600** next retrieves values for the idle time of each idle segment in the idle segment table **1652** and sums the retrieved values. The employee fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the total engine idle time. Next, the employee fuel economy module **1600** reviews the loaded operational data, identifies engine-on and engine-off events indicated by the data, and retrieves the time associated with each identified engine-on and engine-off event. For each identified engine-on event, the employee fuel economy module **1600** calculates the elapsed time between the engine-on event and the next corresponding engine-off event. The employee fuel economy module **1600** then stores each calculated elapsed time as an engine-on segment, and sums the duration of the identified engine-on segments to calculate the vehicle's total engine running time. Next, the fuel economy module **1600** divides calculated total engine idle time value by the calculated total engine running time value and stores the result as the idle percentage of total engine runtime or "ITER percentage." According to various embodiments, the ITER percentage represents the percentage of the engine's running time during which it was idling.

Next, the employee fuel economy module **1600** counts the total number of engine idle segments identified and displayed in the idle segment table **1652**. The employee fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the total number of idle events. Next, the employee fuel economy module **1600** reviews the loaded operational data and determines the total number of GPS miles traveled by the vehicle **100** during the defined period (e.g., miles traveled by the vehicle on the user-selected date). For example, in one embodiment, the employee fuel economy module **1600** reviews the loaded operational data in chronological order and identifies the first and second data records containing location data points (e.g., first and second GPS coordinates). The employee fuel economy module **1600** then calculates the linear distance between the first and second location points and stores the result. Next, the employee fuel economy module **1600** identifies the next data record containing a location data point (e.g., third GPS coordinates), calculates the linear distance between the second and third location points, and stores the result. The employee fuel economy module **1600** then repeats this process until the distance between the chronologically adjacent location data points in the loaded operational data has been determined. The employee fuel economy module **1600** then sums the determined distances and stores the result as the total GPS miles traveled. The employee fuel economy module **1600** then divides the calculated total idle time value by the total GPS miles traveled value and stores the result as the idle time per GPS mile.

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In another embodiment, the employee fuel economy module **1600** may perform a similar calculation based on the vehicle's odometer measurements. For example, the employee fuel economy module **1600** may retrieve from the loaded operational data a distance traveled value (e.g., an odometer reading) associated with the final idle segment in the idle segment table **1652** and stores this value as the total odometer miles traveled. The employee fuel economy module **1600** would then divide the calculated total idle time value by the total odometer miles traveled value and stores the result as the idle time per odometer mile.

Next, the fuel economy module **1600** reviews the idle time values for all of the idle segments in the idle segment table **1652** and identifies the largest single idle time value. The fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the maximum idle event. Finally, as shown in FIG. 24, the employee fuel economy module **1600** displays the determined vehicle number, the total engine idle time, the total engine running time, the idle percentage of total engine runtime, the total number of idle time events, the amount of idle time per GPS mile, and the maximum idle time event in the fuel economy statistics table **1654**.

Next, at step **1616**, the employee fuel economy module **1600** calculates idle statistics for the Start of Trip idle segments identified and displayed in the idle segment table **1652**. In one embodiment, the employee fuel economy module **1600** executes step **1616** by first counting the number of Start of Trip engine idle segments identified and displayed in the idle segment table **1652**. The employee fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the number of Start of Trip idle events. Next, the employee fuel economy module **1600** retrieves values for the idle time of each Start of Trip idle segment in the idle segment table **1652** and sums all of the retrieved values. The fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the total idle time for Start of Trip idle events. Next, the fuel economy module **1600** divides the total idle time for Start of Trip idle events by the number of Start of Trip idle events. The fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the average idle time for Start of Trip idle events. Next, the fuel economy module **1600** reviews all of the values for the idle time Start of Trip idle segment and identifies the largest single idle time value. The fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the maximum Start of Trip idle event. Finally, as shown in FIG. 24, the employee fuel economy module **1600** displays the determined number of Start of Trip idle segments, the total idle time of all Start of Trip idle segments, the average time of the Start of Trip idle segments, and maximum idle time for a single Start of Trip segment.

Next, at step **1618**, the employee fuel economy module **1600** calculates idle statistics for the During Travel idle segments identified and displayed in the idle segment table **1652**. In one embodiment, the employee fuel economy module **1600** executes step **1618** by first counting the number of During Travel engine idle segments identified and displayed in the idle segment table **1652**. The employee fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the number of During Travel idle events. Next, the employee fuel economy module **1600** retrieves values for the idle time of each During Travel idle segment in the idle segment table **1652** and sums all of the retrieved values. The fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the total idle time for During Travel idle events. Next, the fuel economy module **1600** divides the total idle time for During Travel idle events by the number of During Travel idle events. The fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the average idle time for During Travel idle events. Next, the fuel economy module **1600** reviews all of the values for the idle time During Travel idle segment and iden-

tifies the largest single idle time value. The fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the maximum During Travel idle event. Finally, as shown in FIG. **24**, the employee fuel economy module **1600** displays the determined number of During Travel idle segments, the total idle time of all During Travel idle segments, the average time of the During Travel idle segments, and maximum idle time for a single During Travel segment.

Next, at step **1620**, the employee fuel economy module **1600** calculates idle statistics for the End of Trip idle segments identified and displayed in the idle segment table **1652**. In one embodiment, the employee fuel economy module **1600** executes step **1620** by first counting the number of End of Trip engine idle segments identified and displayed in the idle segment table **1652**. The employee fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the number of End of Trip idle events. Next, the employee fuel economy module **1600** retrieves values for the idle time of each End of Trip idle segment in the idle segment table **1652** and sums all of the retrieved values. The fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the total idle time for End of Trip idle events. Next, the fuel economy module **1600** divides the total idle time for End of Trip idle events by the number of End of Trip idle events. The fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the average idle time for End of Trip idle events. Next, the fuel economy module **1600** reviews all of the values for the idle time End of Trip idle segment and identifies the largest single idle time value. The fuel economy module **1600** then stores this value as the maximum End of Trip idle event. Finally, as shown in FIG. **24**, the employee fuel economy module **1600** displays the determined number of End of Trip idle segments, the total idle time of all End of Trip idle segments, the average time of the End of Trip idle segments, and maximum idle time for a single End of Trip segment.

As noted earlier, the employee fuel economy view **800E** further includes an idle time filter menu **1656** that permits a user to define which idle segment types are analyzed and represented in the idle segment table **1652** and fuel economy statistics table **1654**. Accordingly, in various embodiments, the employee fuel economy module **1600** is further configured to review the settings of the idle time filter menu **1656** (e.g., by reviewing the status of each selectable box associated with idle segment options) and determines the type or types of idle time segments the user has requested to view. In accordance with the user's filter selections identified, the employee fuel economy module **1600** will then take into account only engine idle segments selected by the user using the idle time filter menu **1656** when generating the statistics shown in the fuel economy statistics table **1654**.

For example, the steps shown in FIG. **22** represent steps executed by the employee fuel economy module **1600** where each of the Start of Trip segment, During Travel segment, and End of Trip segment filter options of the idle time filter menu **1656** have been selected. However, as will be appreciated from the description herein, the employee fuel economy module **1600** may execute modified steps in accordance with different user filter selections. For example, in one embodiment, the employee fuel economy module **1600**—in response to a user's selection of only the Start of Trip filter option and End of Trip filter option—would identify and analyze only Start of Trip idle segments and End of Trip idle segments in generating overall idle statistics in step **1614** and would skip step **1618** (as no analysis of During Travel segments would be requested). Similarly, in response to a user's selection of only the During Travel filter option, the employee fuel economy module **1600** would identify and analyze only During Travel idle segments in generating overall idle statistics in step **1614**

and would skip steps **1616** and **1620** (as no analysis of Start of Trip or End of Trip segments would be requested).

Employee Trace Module

According to various embodiments, the employee trace module **1700** is generally configured for providing time and distance information for a user-selected portion of a vehicle travel path. In particular, the employee trace module **1700** enables a user to select a portion of a vehicle travel path shown on the user interface's map display **810** (e.g., as generated by the central server **120** in step **908** of FIG. **9**) and view information derived from operational data captured as the vehicle traveled along the selected portion of the travel path. In one embodiment, the employee trace module **1700** is associated with an employee trace tab **857** (shown in FIG. **26**). As such, the central server **120** is configured to run the employee trace module **1700** in response to a user's selection of the employee trace tab **857**.

FIG. **25** illustrates steps executed by the employee trace module **1700** to provide time and distance information for a user-selected portion of a vehicle path according to one embodiment. Beginning at step **1702**, the employee trace module **1700** displays an employee trace view of the central server user interface **800**. For example, FIG. **26** shows an employee trace view **800F** of the central server user interface **800** according to one embodiment. In the illustrated embodiment, the employee trace view **800F** displays a path statistics table **1752**, in addition to the various menus and options **802-809** and map display **810** of the start-up view shown in FIG. **8**. As shown in FIG. **26**, the path statistics table **1752** indicates some or all of the following for the vehicle's **100** movement along a user-selected portion of its travel path: a start time (e.g., the time at which the vehicle began traveling along the selected portion of the travel path), an end time (e.g., the time at which the vehicle ceased traveling along the selected portion of the travel path), total time (e.g., the duration of the vehicle's travel along the selected portion of the travel path), and total miles (e.g., the distance of the vehicle's travel along the selected portion of the travel path). In addition, the employee fuel economy view **800E** includes a create report button **1658** configured to generate a printable trace report (e.g., a .pdf or Excel® file) showing, for example, the path statistics table **1652** and map display **810**.

Next, at step **1704**, the employee trace module **1700** monitors the map display **810** for user-input selecting a portion of a vehicle travel path. For example, FIG. **26** illustrates the map display **810** with a vehicle travel path **1754** corresponding to the loaded operational data displayed. In the illustrated embodiment, a user may select a portion of the vehicle travel path **1754** by providing user-input defining a geographic area on the map display **810** and allowing the employee trace module **1700** to select the portion of the vehicle travel path **1754** located within the defined geographic area. For example, FIG. **26** shows a user-selected geographic area **1756**, which the user may generate by clicking on a particular point with a mouse-operated pointer and dragging the pointer to form the illustrated area **1756**. In addition, the user may select a portion of the vehicle travel path **1754** by clicking on first and second points along the displayed travel path **1754** in order to select the portion of the path defined between the two selected points.

Next, at step **1706**, the employee trace module **1700** determines whether user-input selecting a portion of the vehicle travel path **1754** has been received. If path selection user-input has not been detected, the employee trace module **1700** loops back to step **1704** and continues monitoring for such user-input. If the path selection user-input has been detected, the employee trace module **1700** moves to step **1708**, where it

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identifies the user-selected portion of the vehicle travel path. For example, where the user has provided input defining the user-selected geographic area **1756** of FIG. **26** (or another analogous area), the employee trace module **1700** identifies portions of the vehicle travel path **1754** located within the geographic area **1756** and defines those portions as the selected portions of the vehicle travel path **1754**. Likewise, where a user directly selects portions of the vehicle travel path **1754** (e.g., by clicking on one or more points along the path **1754**), the employee trace module **1700** stores the selected portions. In another embodiment, the user may select a particular stop displayed on the map and the employee trace module **1700** will automatically identify the selected portion of the vehicle path as the portion between the selected stop and the next stop on the map. In one embodiment, after identifying the user-selected portion of the travel path **1754**, the employee trace module **1700** graphically distinguishes the selected portion on the map display **810** from the remaining portions of the travel path **1754** (e.g., by highlighting or coloring the selected portion uniquely from the travel path **1754**).

Next, at step **1710**, the employee trace module **1700** determines and displays the start time of the vehicle's **100** movement along the user-selected portion of the travel path **1754**, the end time of the vehicle's **100** movement along the user-selected portion of the travel path **1754**, and the total elapsed time of the vehicle's **100** movement along the user-selected portion of the travel path **1754**. For example, in one embodiment, the employee trace module **1700** retrieves the loaded operational data associated with the user-selected portion of the travel path **1754** and identifies the earliest-occurring and latest-occurring data points. The employee trace module **1700** then retrieves the time data associated with the earliest-occurring data point and stores that time as the start time of the vehicle's **100** movement along the user-selected portion of the travel path **1754**. The employee trace module **1700** then retrieves the time data associated with the latest-occurring data point and stores that time as the end time of the vehicle's **100** movement along the user-selected portion of the travel path **1754**. The employee trace module **1700** next calculates the difference between the determined start time and the determined end time and stores the result as the total time of the vehicle's **100** movement along the user-selected portion of the travel path **1754**. As shown in FIG. **26**, the employee trace module **1700** then displays the determined start time, end time, and total time in the path statistics table **1752**.

Next, at step **1712**, the employee trace module **1700** calculates the total miles traveled by the vehicle **100** along the user-selected portion of the travel path **1754**. In one embodiment, the employee trace module **1700** executes step **1712** by retrieving—from the loaded operational data—the vehicle distance data (e.g., a vehicle odometer measurement) associated with the start time and end time identified in step **1710**. The employee trace module **1700** then calculates the difference between the distance value associated with the end time and the distance value associated with the start time, and stores the result as the total miles traveled by the vehicle **100** along the user-selected portion of the travel path **1754**. As shown in FIG. **26**, the employee trace module **1700** next displays the determined miles traveled in the path statistics table **1752**.

Employee Work Area Module

According to various embodiments, the central server **120** may further include an employee work area module (not shown) configured for providing various delivery information associated with a defined work area for a user-selected driver and vehicle over a defined period of time (e.g., a user-

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selected day). In one embodiment, the employee work area module is associated with an employee work area tab **858** (shown in FIG. **41**). As such, the central server **120** is configured to run the employee work area module in response to a user's selection of the employee work area tab **858**.

FIG. **41** shows an employee work area view **800N** of the central server user interface **800** generated by the employee work area module according to one embodiment. As shown in FIG. **41**, the employee work area module is configured to permit a user to define a particular geographic work area and view delivery information associated with the selected driver and date for that work area. For example, in one embodiment, the user may draw one or more work areas on the map portion of the central server user interface (e.g., as shown in FIG. **41**). In further embodiments, the user may predefine work areas, such as a particular neighborhood or shopping district. The user may then select one or more work areas to view delivery information for.

Accordingly, in various embodiments, the employee work area module is configured to determine various delivery statistics associated with defined work areas for the selected driver. As shown in FIG. **41**, the employee work area module defines a "trip" for each work area, the trip beginning with an entry time when the driver enters the work area and ending with an exit time when the driver exits the work area. For each trip, the employee work area module determines the trip number, driver name, route number, miles traveled, total number of stops made, number of delivery stops made, number of driver release stops, number of packages delivered, number of pickup stops made, number of packages picked up, planned delivery hours, planned pickup hours, planned travel hours, total planned time, actual trip time, over under actual vs. planned trip time, and break time. In addition, for each stop made by the driver on the selected date, the employee work area module determines and displays the trip number the stop was made in, the driver name, the stop number, the stop type, the time of the stop, the time to the stop, the miles to the stop, the over under actual stop time to planned stop time, the number of packages picked up or delivered, the address of the stop, the loop or route number, the unit number, sequence number, and stop class (e.g., ground, next day air, etc.).

In addition, as shown in FIG. **41**, the information displayed in the employee work area view **800N** may be filtered. For example, a user may select to show work area labels for one or more of the work area name, over-under, distance (e.g., miles, KM), plan hours total, total stops, delivery stops, driver release stops, pickup stops, next day air stops, number of delivery packages, number of pickup packages, planned delivery hours, planned pickup hours, planned travel hours, and break hours. In addition, a user may select to show work area data for any combination of drivers, trips, over-under threshold, distance threshold, plan hours total threshold, total stop threshold, delivery stops, driver release stops, pickup stops, next day air stops, delivery package threshold, pickup package threshold, plan delivery hours threshold, planned pickup hours threshold, planned travel hours threshold, and break hours threshold.

Location Performance Module

According to various embodiments, the location performance module **1800** is generally configured for providing delivery performance statistics for a user-selected group of drivers (e.g., drivers associated with a user-selected hub location) during a user-selected period (e.g., a particular day). In one embodiment, the location performance module **1800** is associated with a location performance tab **861** (shown in FIG. **28**). As such, the central server **120** is configured to run

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the location performance module **1800** in response to a user's selection of the location performance tab **861**.

FIG. 27 illustrates steps executed by the location performance module **1800** to generate delivery performance statistics for a group of drivers according to one embodiment. Beginning at step **1801**, the location performance module **1800** displays a location performance view of the central server user interface **800**. For example, FIG. 28 shows a location performance view **800G** of the central server user interface **800** according to one embodiment. In the illustrated embodiment, the location performance view **800G** displays a delivery performance statistics table **1852**, which indicates some or all of the following performance statistics for each driver in the user-selected driver group on the user-selected date: the number of delivery stops performed, the number of pickup stops performed, the total number of stops performed, the total number of bills of lading (herein "bills") associated with items (e.g., packages or freight) picked up or delivered, the total weight of items picked up or delivered, the number of stops performed per hour, the average time of performed stops, the number of bills per hour, the total number of miles traveled, and the number of miles traveled per stop. In addition, the location performance view **800G** includes the various menus and options **802-809** and map display **810** of the start-up view shown in FIG. 8. Furthermore, the location performance view **800G** includes a create report button **1854** configured to generate—in response to a user's selection—a printable location performance report (e.g., a .pdf or .xls file) showing the delivery performance statistics table **1852**.

Next, at step **1802**, the location performance module **1800** identifies and displays the first driver associated with the user-selected location. For example, in one embodiment, the location performance module **1800** reviews the list of drivers in the driver menu **806**, identifies the first listed driver, and displays the driver and associated vehicle number in the delivery performance statistics table **1852**. The location performance module **1800** then defines the identified driver as the "current" driver for performing steps **1804-1812**. Next, at step **1803**, the location performance module **1800** retrieves data associated with the current driver from the loaded operational data (e.g., the operational data loaded by central server **120** in step **906** of FIG. 9) and loaded segmented data (e.g., the segmented data loaded by the central server **120** in step **912** of FIG. 9), and stores the retrieved data (e.g., in the central server's memory) for use in performing steps **1804-1810**. As the operational data and segmented data loaded by the central server **120** correspond to the user-selected date, the data retrieved in step **1803** is representative of the identified driver's performance on the user-selected date.

Next, at step **1804**, the location performance module **1800** determines and displays the number of delivery stops, pickup stops, and total stops performed by the current driver on the user-selected date. In one embodiment, the location performance module **1800** executes step **1804** by reviewing the segmented data retrieved in step **1803**, counting the number of delivery stops and the number of pickup stops, and storing those values as the number of preformed delivery stops and pickup stops for the current driver. The location performance module **1800** next sums the determined number of delivery stops and the determined number of pickup stops, and stores the result as the number of total stops for the current driver. As shown in FIG. 28, the location performance module **1800** then displays the determined number of delivery stops, number of pickup stops, and total number of stops for the current driver in the delivery performance statistics table **1852**.

Next, at step **1806**, the location performance module **1800** determines and displays the total number of bills associated

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with items (e.g., freight or packages) delivered or picked up by the current driver, the total number of handling units (e.g., an individual parcel or portion of freight) delivered or picked up by the current driver, and the total weight of the items picked up or delivered by the current driver. In one embodiment, the location performance module **1800** executes step **1806** by first reviewing the operational data retrieved in step **1803**, identifying all data indicating a number of bills associated with a stop, summing the identified bills values, and storing the result as the number of bills delivered and picked up by the current driver. Next, the location performance module **1800** reviews the operational data retrieved in step **1803**, identifies all data indicating a number of handling units associated with a stop, sums the identified handling unit values, and stores the result as the total number of handling units delivered and picked up by the current driver. Next, the location performance module **1800** reviews the operational data retrieved in step **1803**, identifies data indicating the weight of items associated with a stop, sums the identified weight values, and stores the result as the total weight of items delivered and picked up by the current driver. As shown in FIG. 28, the location performance module **1800** then displays the determined number of bills, number of handling units, and weight for the current driver in the delivery performance statistics table **1852**.

Next, at step **1808**, the location performance module **1800** determines and displays the number of stops performed by the current driver per hour, the average time of stops performed by the current driver, and number of bills delivered or picked up per hour by the current driver. In one embodiment, the location performance module **1800** executes step **1808** by first reviewing the segmented data retrieved in step **1803** and identifying the start time of the first indicated activity segment and the stop time of the last indicated activity segment. The location performance module **1800** then calculates the difference between the identified start time and stop time and stores the result as the total worked time for the current driver. In certain embodiments, the location performance module **1800** may be further configured to identify any lunch and break segments in the retrieved segmented data, determine the duration of those segments, and modify the total worked time by subtracting the identified lunch/break time.

Next, the location performance module **1800** reviews the segmented data retrieved in step **1803** and identifies every stop segment indicated in the retrieved segmented data. The location performance module **1800** then counts the identified stop segments and stores the result as the total number of stop segments for the current driver. In addition, the location performance module **1800** determines the stop time for each identified stop segments (e.g., using the methods described earlier in relation to the employee timecard module **1300**), sums the identified stop times, and stores the result as the total stop time for the current driver.

Next, the location performance module **1800** divides the total number of stop segments by the total worked time, and stores the result as the stops per hour for the current driver. Further, the location performance module **1800** divides the total stop time by the total number of stop segments, and stores the result as the average stop time for the current driver. In addition, the location performance module **1800** divides the total number of bills delivered or picked up (as identified in step **1806**) by the total worked time, and stores the result as the bills per hour for the current driver. As shown in FIG. 28, the location performance module **1800** then displays the determined stops per hour, average stop time, and bills per hour for the current driver in the delivery performance statistics table **1852**.

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Next, at step **1810**, the location performance module **1800** determines and displays the miles traveled by the current driver and miles traveled per stop for the current driver. In one embodiment, the location performance module **1800** executes step **1810** by first identifying in the operational data retrieved in step **1803** the last recorded value for distance traveled (e.g., an odometer reading) storing this value as the total miles traveled for the current driver. The location performance module **1800** then divides the total miles traveled by the total number of stops, and stores the result as the miles per stop for the current driver. As shown in FIG. **28**, the location performance module **1800** then displays the determined miles and miles to stop values in the delivery performance statistics table **1852**.

Next, at step **1812**, the location performance module **1800** determines whether there are additional drivers associated with the user-selected location. For example, in one embodiment, the location performance module **1800** is configured to initially generate delivery performance statistics for various drivers in the order that they appear in the driver menu **806**. Accordingly, in step **1812**, the location performance module **1800** reviews the list of drivers in the driver menu **806** and determines whether there is at least one additional driver listed after the current driver. If the location performance module **1800** determines there are no additional drivers, the location performance module **1800** moves to step **1816**, which is described in greater detail below. If the location performance module **1800** determines there are additional drivers associated with the user-selected location, the location performance module **1800** moves to step **1814**. In step **1814**, the location performance module **1800** identifies and displays the next driver listed in the driver menu **806**. As in step **1802**, the location performance module **1800** reviews the list of drivers in the driver menu **806**, identifies the next listed driver, and displays the driver and associated vehicle number in the delivery performance statistics table **1852**. The location performance module **1800** then defines the newly identified driver as the “current” driver. As shown in FIG. **27**, the location performance module **1800** then loops back and performs steps **1803-1812** for the newly identified current driver.

Next, at step **1816**, the location performance module **1800** monitors the central server user interface **800** for a user’s selection of one of the statistical categories displayed in the delivery performance statistics table **1852** (e.g., delivery stops, pickup stops, total stops, etc.). For example, in one embodiment, the location performance view **800G** of the central server user interface **800** is configured such that each statistics category heading in the delivery performance statistics table **1852** is a button selectable by a user (e.g., by clicking using a mouse-controlled pointer). As such, the location performance module **1800** is configured to recognize a user’s selection of any one of the table’s headings.

Accordingly, at step **1818**, the location performance module **1800** determines whether the user has selected one of the statistical headings. If the location performance module **1800** has not detected a user selection, it continues monitoring for user selections in step **1816**. If the location performance module **1800** has detected a user selection, it moves to step **1820** where it arranges the list of drivers and their associated statistical data according to the selected statistical category. In one embodiment, in response to a user’s selection of a statistical category, the location performance module **1800** reviews the values displayed in the column associated with the selected category, arranges the values numerically in order from least to greatest (or greatest to least), and displays the each row of driver statistics in order according to the values in the selected category. For example, in the location

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performance view **800G** shown in FIG. **28**, a user has selected the “stops per hour” statistical category. Accordingly, the location performance module **1800** has arranged the statistics shown in the delivery performance statistics table **1852** according to that category, where the driver the lowest number of stops per hour is displayed first and the driver with the highest number of stops per hour is shown last.

As noted earlier, the drivers listed in the driver menu **806** are each associated with the user-selected location (e.g., the location specified in the location pull-down menu **802**). Accordingly, the location performance module **1800** permits a user—via the location performance view **800G** of the central server user interface **800**—to compare drivers from a common location based on the various aforementioned delivery performance statistics.

Location Hours Module

According to various embodiments, the location hours module **1900** is generally configured for providing various time statistics for a user-selected group of drivers (e.g., drivers associated with a user-selected hub location) during a user-selected period (e.g., a particular day). In one embodiment, the location hours module **1900** is associated with a location hours tab **862** (shown in FIG. **30**). As such, the central server **120** is configured to run the location hours module **1900** in response to a user’s selection of the location hours tab **862**.

FIG. **29** illustrates steps executed by the location hours module **1900** to generate time statistics for a group of drivers according to one embodiment. Beginning at step **1902**, the location hours module **1900** displays a location hours view of the central server user interface **800**. For example, FIG. **30** shows a location hours view **800H** of the central server user interface **800** according to one embodiment. In the illustrated embodiment, the location hours view **800H** displays a time statistics table **1952**, which indicates some or all of the following time statistics for each driver in the user-selected driver group on the user-selected date: the driver’s geofence on property time, the driver’s actual on property time, the difference between the geofence and actual on property time, the planned on property time, the excess on property time, the difference between the geofence on property time and planned on property time, the driver’s total non-travel time to stop time, the driver’s total delay code time, and the driver’s total lunch time. In addition, the location hours view **800H** includes the various menus and options **802-809** and map display **810** of the start-up view shown in FIG. **8**. Furthermore, the location hours view **800H** includes a create report button **1954** configured to generate—in response to a user’s selection—a printable location hours report (e.g., a .pdf or .xls file) showing the time statistics table **1952**.

Next, at step **1904**, the location hours module **1900** identifies and displays the first driver associated with the user-selected location. For example, in one embodiment, the location hours module **1900** reviews the list of drivers in the driver menu **806**, identifies the first listed driver, and displays the driver in the time statistics table **1952**. The location hours module **1900** then defines the identified driver as the “current” driver for performing steps **1906-1922**. Next, at step **1906**, the location hours module **1900** retrieves the data associated with the current driver from the loaded operational data (e.g., the operational data loaded by central server **120** in step **906** of FIG. **9**) and loaded segmented data (e.g., the segmented data loaded by the central server **120** in step **912** of FIG. **9**), and stores the retrieved data (e.g., in the central server’s memory) for use in performing steps **1906-1922**. As the operational data and segmented data loaded by the central server **120** correspond to the user-selected date, the data

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retrieved in step 1906 is representative of the identified driver's performance on the user-selected date.

Next, at step 1908, the location hours module 1900 determines and displays the geofence on property time and actual on property time for the current driver on the user-selected date. In certain embodiments, the location hours module 1900 may determine both geofence on property time and/or actual on property time based on the segmented data retrieved in step 1906 (depending on the configuration of the data segmenting module 1000 and whether it has been configured to identify on property segments based on geofenced telematics data, service data, or both). In various other embodiments, the location hours module 1900 determines the geofenced on property time for the driver using the geofenced, telematics-data-based on property time determining techniques described herein, such as those noted in relation to the data segmenting module 1000. Likewise, in such embodiments, the location hours module 1900 determines the actual on property time for the driver using the delivery-data-based on property time determining techniques described herein, such as those noted in relation to the data segmenting module 1000. The location hours module 1900 then displays the determined geofenced on property time and actual on property time in the time statistics table 1952, as shown in FIG. 30.

Next, at step 1912, the location hours module 1900 determines and displays the difference between the geofence on property time and actual on property time determined in step 1908 for the current driver. In one embodiment, the location hours module 1900 subtracts the determined actual on property time from the determined geofence on property time and displays the result in the time statistics table 1952. Next, at step 1914, the location hours module 1900 retrieves the planned on property time for the current driver (e.g., from the Planning Data Set stored on the central server database) and displays the planned on property time in the time statistics table 1952.

Next, at step 1916, the location hours module 1900 determines the excess on property time for the current driver by subtracting the planned on property time retrieved in step 1914 from the actual on property time determined in step 1908. The location hours module 1900 then displays the result in the time statistics table 1952. Next, at step 1918, the location hours module 1900 determines the difference between the geofence on property time and planned on property time for the current driver by subtracting the planned on property time retrieved in step 1914 from the geofence on property time determined in step 1908. The location hours module 1900 then displays the result in the time statistics table 1952.

Next, at step 1920, the location hours module 1900 determines the total non-travel time to stop time, delay code time, and lunch time for the current driver on the user-selected date. In one embodiment, the location hours module 1900 determines each of these values by reviewing the segmented data retrieved in step 1906, summing the duration of the identified non-travel time to stop segment, summing the duration of the identified delay code segments, and summing the duration of the identified lunch segments. The location hours module 1900 then displays the results in the time statistics table 1952.

Next, at step 1922, the location hours module 1900 determines whether there are additional drivers associated with the user-selected location. For example, in one embodiment, the location hours module 1900 is configured to initially generate time statistics for various drivers in the order that they appear in the driver menu 806. Accordingly, in step 1922, the location hours module 1900 reviews the list of drivers in the driver menu 806 and determines whether there is at least one addi-

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tional driver listed after the current driver. If the location hours module 1900 determines there are additional drivers associated with the user-selected location, the location hours module 1900 moves to step 1924. In step 1924, the location hours module 1900 identifies and displays the next driver listed in the driver menu 806. As in step 1904, the location hours module 1900 reviews the list of drivers in the driver menu 806, identifies the next listed driver, and displays the driver in the time statistics table 1952. The location hours module 1900 then defines the newly identified driver as the "current" driver. As shown in FIG. 29, the location hours module 1900 then loops back and performs steps 1906-1922 for the newly identified current driver.

Location Idle Time Module

According to various embodiments, the location idle time module 2000 is generally configured for providing efficiency statistics based on engine idle time for a user-selected group of drivers. In one embodiment, the location idle time module 2000 is associated with a location idle time tab 863 (shown in FIG. 32). As such, the central server 120 is configured to run the location idle time module 2000 in response to a user's selection of the location idle time tab 863.

FIG. 31 illustrates steps executed by the location idle time module 2000 to generate idle time efficiency statistics for a group of drivers according to one embodiment. Beginning at step 2002, the location idle time module 2000 displays a location idle time view of the central server user interface 800. For example, FIG. 32 shows a location idle time view 800I of the central server user interface 800 according to one embodiment. In the illustrated embodiment, the location idle time view 800I displays an idle time efficiency table 2052, in addition to the various menus and options 802-809 and map display 810 of the start-up view shown in FIG. 8.

In various embodiments, the idle time efficiency table 2052 indicates some or all of the following efficiency statistics for each respective vehicle associated with each driver in the user-selected driver group on the user-selected date: an id number indicating the vehicle associated with the driver on the user-selected date, the vehicle's total idle time, the vehicle's idle percentage of engine runtime, the vehicle's maximum engine idle event, the vehicle's total Start of Trip idle time, the vehicle's total During Travel idle time, the vehicle's End of Trip idle time, the vehicle's total combined Start of Trip and End of Trip idle time, the vehicle's Start of Trip and End of Trip over/under time, the vehicle's Start of Trip idle time per idle event, the vehicle's End of Trip idle time per idle event, the vehicle's total idle time per GPS mile, the vehicle's Travel Delay idle time per GPS mile, and the total time in which the driver's seat belt was disengaged while the vehicle was idling.

Although only a portion of the aforementioned statistics are illustrated in the idle time efficiency table 2052 shown in FIG. 32, the location idle time user interface view 800I includes a scroll bar associated with the table 2052 that allows a user to move the displayed table 2052 in order to view the remaining statistics. In addition, the location idle time view 800I includes a create report button 2054 configured to generate—in response to a user's selection—a printable location idle time report (e.g., a .pdf or .xls file) showing the idle time efficiency table 2052. FIG. 33 illustrates one embodiment of a printable location idle time report 2050 showing the idle time efficiency table's 2052 statistical categories.

Next, at step 2004, the location idle time module 2000 identifies and displays the first driver and vehicle associated with the user-selected location. For example, in one embodiment, the location idle time module 2000 reviews the list of drivers in the driver menu 806, identifies the first driver and

the vehicle associated with the first driver, and displays the driver and id number of the associated vehicle in the idle time efficiency table **2052**. The location idle time module **2000** then defines the identified driver and vehicle as the “current” driver and vehicle for performing steps **2006-2024**.

Next, at step **2006**, the location idle time module **2000** retrieves data associated with the current driver and vehicle from the loaded operational data (e.g., the operational data loaded by the central server **120** in step **906** of FIG. **9**) and loaded segmented data (e.g., the segmented data loaded by the central server **120** in step **912** of FIG. **9**), and stores the retrieved data (e.g., in the central server’s memory) for use in performing steps **2008-2024**. As the operational data and segmented data loaded by the central server **120** correspond to the user-selected date, the data retrieved in step **2006** is representative of the identified driver’s performance on the user-selected date.

Next, at step **2008**, the location idle time module **2000** determines and displays the total engine idle time for the current vehicle on the user-selected date. In one embodiment, the location idle time module **2000** executes step **2008** by reviewing the segmented data retrieved in step **2006**, identifying every idle segment present in the segmented data, and determines the duration of each identified idle segment (e.g., using the methods described earlier in relation to the employee fuel economy module **1600**). The location idle time module **2000** then sums the durations of the identified idle segments and stores the result as the total idle time for the current vehicle and driver. As shown in FIGS. **32** and **33**, the location idle time module **2000** then displays the determined total idle time value in the idle time efficiency table **2052**.

Next, at step **2010**, the location idle time module **2000** determines and displays the idle percentage of engine runtime for the current vehicle on the user-selected date. In one embodiment, the location idle time module **2000** executes step **2010** by first reviewing the operational data retrieved in step **2006**, identifying the engine-on and engine-off events indicated by the data, and retrieving the time associated with each identified engine-on and engine-off event. For each identified engine-on event, the location idle time module **2000** then calculates the elapsed time between the engine-on event and the next corresponding engine-off event. The location idle time module **2000** then stores each calculated elapsed time as an engine-on segment, and sums the duration of identified engine-on segments to calculate the vehicle’s total engine running time. Next, the location idle time module **2000** divides the total idle time value determined in step **2008** by the calculated total engine running time value and stores the result as the idle percentage of total engine runtime or “ITER percentage.” As shown in FIGS. **32** and **33**, the location idle time module **2000** then displays the determined ITER percentage in the idle time efficiency table **2052**.

Next, at step **2012**, the location idle time module **2000** determines and displays the maximum idle event for the current vehicle on the user-selected date. In one embodiment, the location idle time module **2000** executes step **2012** by reviewing the duration values—determined in step **2008**—for every idle segment present in the segmented data retrieved in step **2006**. The location idle time module **2000** then identifies the longest duration value associated with an idle segment in the retrieved segmented data and stores the result as the maximum idle event for the current driver and vehicle. As shown in FIGS. **32** and **33**, the location idle time module **2000** then displays the determined maximum idle event in the idle time efficiency table **2052**.

Next, at step **2014**, the location idle time module **2000** determines and displays the Start of Trip idle time, During

Travel idle time, and End of Trip idle time for the current driver and vehicle. In one embodiment, the location idle time module **2000** executes step **2014** by first retrieving values for the idle time of each Start of Trip idle segment present in the segmented data retrieved in step **2006**. The location idle time module **2000** then sums the retrieved values and stores the result as the total Start of Trip idle time for the current driver and current vehicle. This procedure is then repeated for the During Travel and End of Trip idle segments in the retrieved segmented data to determine the total During Travel idle time and total End of Trip idle time, respectively. As shown in FIGS. **32** and **33**, the location idle time module **2000** next displays the determined Start of Trip idle time, During Travel idle time, and End of Trip idle time in the idle time efficiency table **2052**.

Next, at step **2016**, the location idle time module **2000** determines and displays the combined Start of Trip and End of Trip idle time, and over/under for the Start of Trip and End of Trip idle time for the current driver and vehicle. In one embodiment, the location idle time module **2000** executes step **2016** by summing the Start of Trip idle time and End of Trip idle time values determined in step **2014**, and storing the result as the Start of Trip and End of Trip total idle time. The location idle time module **2000** then determines an over/under value for the Start of Trip and End of Trip idle time by counting the total number of start of trip and end of trip segments, multiplying this number by a predefined, planned allocated time for each segment (e.g., 10 seconds), and subtracting this number from the combined Start of Trip and End of Trip total idle time. As shown in FIGS. **32** and **33**, the location idle time module **2000** next displays the determined Start of Trip and End of Trip combined idle time and the Start of Trip and End of Trip over/under value in the idle time efficiency table **2052**.

Next, at step **2018**, the location idle time module **2000** determines and displays the Start of Trip time per idle event and the End of Trip time per idle event for the current driver and vehicle. In one embodiment, the location idle time module **2000** executes step **2018** by first counting the number of Start of Trip engine idle segments identified in the retrieved segmented data and storing this value as the number of Start of Trip idle events. Next, the location idle time module **2000** divides the total Start of Trip idle time (calculated in step **2014**) by the number of Start of Trip idle events. The location idle time module **2000** then stores this value as the Start of Trip time (e.g., seconds) per Start of Trip idle event. The location idle time module **2000** then repeats this procedure for End of Trip idle time segments in the retrieved segmented data and stores the result as the End of Trip time per End of Trip idle event. As shown in FIG. **33**, the location idle time module **2000** next displays the determined Start of Trip time per event and End of Trip time per event values in the idle time efficiency table **2052**.

Next, at step **2020**, the location idle time module **2000** determines and displays the total idle time per GPS mile for the current driver and vehicle. In one embodiment, the location idle time module **2000** executes step **2020** by first reviewing the operational data retrieved in step **2006** and determining the total number of GPS miles traveled by the vehicle **100** on the user-selected date. For example, the location idle time module **2000** reviews the retrieved operational data in chronological order and identifies the first and second data records containing location data points (e.g., first and second GPS coordinates). The location idle time module **2000** then calculates the linear distance between the first and second location points and stores the result. Next, the location idle time module **2000** identifies the next data record containing a location

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data point (e.g., third GPS coordinates), calculates the linear distance between the second and third location points, and stores the result. The location idle time module **2000** then repeats this process until the distance between chronologically adjacent location data points in the retrieved operational data has been determined. The location idle time module **2000** then sums the determined distances and stores the result as the total GPS miles traveled for the current driver and vehicle. Next, the location idle time module **2000** divides the total idle time value calculated in step **2008** by the total GPS miles traveled value and stores the result as the total idle time per GPS mile for the current driver and vehicle. The location idle time module **2000** then divides the total During Travel idle time value calculated in step **2014** by the total GPS miles traveled value and stores the result as the travel delays per GPS mile for the current driver and vehicle. As shown in FIG. **33**, the location idle time module **2000** next displays the determined total idle time per GPS mile and travel delays per GPS mile for the current driver and vehicle in the idle time efficiency table **2052**.

Next, at step **2022**, the location idle time module **2000** determines and displays the total time in which the driver's seat belt was disengaged while the vehicle was idling. In one embodiment, the location idle time module **2000** executes step **2022** reviewing the segmented data retrieved in step **2006** and identifying every Seat Belt Safety Hazard segment in the segmented data. The location idle time module **2000** then determines the duration of each identified Seat Belt Safety Hazard segments (e.g., using the methods for determining segment duration described herein). Next, the location idle time module **2000** sums the durations of the identified Seat Belt Safety Hazard segments and stores the result as the total seat belt off while idling time for the current driver and vehicle. As shown in FIG. **33**, the location idle time module **2000** then displays the determined total seat belt off while idling time for the current driver and vehicle in the idle time efficiency table **2052**.

Next, at step **2024**, the location idle time module **2000** determines whether there are additional drivers associated with the user-selected location. For example, in one embodiment, the location idle time module **2000** is configured to initially generate idle time efficiency statistics for various drivers in the order that they appear in the driver menu **806**. Accordingly, in step **2024**, the location idle time module **2000** reviews the list of drivers in the driver menu **806** and determines whether there is at least one additional driver listed after the current driver. If the location idle time module **2000** determines there are additional drivers associated with the user-selected location, the location idle time module **2000** moves to step **2026**. In step **2026**, the location idle time module **2000** identifies and displays the next driver listed in the driver menu **806**. As in step **2004**, the location idle time module **2000** reviews the list of drivers in the driver menu **806**, identifies the next listed driver, and displays the driver and associated vehicle number in the idle time efficiency table **2052**. The location idle time module **2000** then defines the newly identified driver as the "current" driver. As shown in FIG. **31**, the location idle time module **2000** then loops back and performs steps **2006-2024** for the newly identified current driver.

Although not shown in the steps of FIG. **31**, in certain embodiments the location idle time module **2000** may be configured to monitor the central server user interface **800** for a user's selection of one of the statistical categories displayed in the idle time efficiency table **2052** (e.g., total idle time, max idle event, etc.). For example, in one embodiment, the location idle time view **800I** of the central server user interface

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800 is configured such that each statistics category heading in the idle time efficiency table **2052** is a button selectable by a user (e.g., by clicking using a mouse-controlled pointer). As such, the location idle time module **2000** is configured to recognize a user's selection of any one of the table's headings. If the location idle time module **2000** detects a user selection, it arranges the list of drivers and their associated statistical data according to the selected statistical category. For example, in one embodiment, the location idle time module **2000** reviews the values displayed in the column associated with the selected category, arranges the values numerically in order from least to greatest (or greatest to least), and displays the each row of driver statistics in order according to the values in the selected category. As noted earlier, the drivers listed in the driver menu **806** are each associated with the user-selected location (e.g., the location specified in the location pull-down menu **802**). Accordingly, the location idle time module **2000** permits a user—via the location idle time view **800I** of the central server user interface **800**—to compare drivers from a common location based on the various aforementioned idle time efficiency statistics.

Location Delay Code Module

According to various embodiments, the location delay code module **2100** is generally configured for providing delay code information for a user-selected group of drivers. In one embodiment, the location delay code module **2100** is associated with a location delay code tab **864** (shown in FIG. **35**). As such, the central server **120** is configured to run the location delay code module **2100** in response to a user's selection of the location delay code tab **864**.

FIG. **34** illustrates steps executed by the location delay code module **2100** to generate delay code information for a group of drivers according to one embodiment. Beginning at step **2102**, the location delay code module **2100** displays a location delay code view of the central server user interface **800**. For example, FIG. **35** shows a location delay code view **800J** of the central server user interface **800** according to one embodiment. In the illustrated embodiment, the location delay code view **800J** displays a delay code table **2152**, which indicates some or all of the following for each delay code entered by the group of drivers: the delay code's type (e.g., ED, BB), the delay code's start time (e.g., 14:32:00), the delay code's end time (e.g., 15:02:00), the total time of the delay code (e.g., 30 minutes), a brief description of the delay code (e.g., Lunch, Stuck in Traffic, Waiting for Door, Fueling Vehicle, Train Tracks, Waiting at Security, Waiting for Freight, Waiting for Bill of Lading), and a brief description of the location where the driver was when the delay code was entered (e.g., a postal address, lunch, returning to yard). In addition, the location delay code view **800J** includes the various menus and options **802-809** and map display **810** of the start-up view shown in FIG. **8**.

Next, at step **2104**, the location delay code module **2100** identifies and displays the first driver associated with the user-selected location. For example, in one embodiment, the location delay code module **2100** reviews the list of drivers in the driver menu **806**, identifies the first listed driver, and displays the driver in the delay code table **2152**. The location delay code module **2100** then defines the identified driver as the "current" driver for performing steps **2106-2114**.

Next, at step **2106**, the location delay code module **2100** retrieves the data associated with the current driver from the loaded segmented data (e.g., the segmented data loaded by the central server **120** in step **912** of FIG. **9**) and stores the retrieved data (e.g., in the central server's memory) for use in performing steps **2108-2118**. As the segmented data loaded by the central server **120** correspond to the user-selected date,

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the data retrieved in step **2106** will indicate the current driver's delay codes on the user-selected date.

Next, at step **2108**, the location delay code module **2100** reviews the segmented data retrieved in step **2106** in chronological order and identifies the first indicated delay code segment. The first identified delay code segment is then defined as the current delay code as the location delay code module **2100** performs steps **2110-2114**. Next, in step **2110**, the location delay code module **2100** identifies and retrieves the delay code type, start time, end time, brief description, and location for the current delay code from the retrieved segmented data. The location delay code module **2100** then displays the retrieved type, start time, end time, brief description, and location for the current delay code in the appropriate cells of the delay code table **2152** as shown in FIG. **35**.

Next, at step **2112**, the location delay code module **2100** calculates and displays the total time for the current delay code. For example, in one embodiment, the location delay code module **2100** determines the total time by calculating the difference between the current delay code's start time and finish time retrieved in step **2110**. The location delay code module **2100** then displays the calculated total time in the appropriate cell of the delay code table **2152**.

Next, at step **2114**, the location delay code module **2100** determines whether there are additional delay codes in the loaded segmented data. In one embodiment, the location delay code module **2100** executes step **2114** by reviewing the retrieved segmented data for delay code segments occurring after the current delay code. If there is an additional delay code segment, the location delay code module **2100** moves to step **2116** where it identifies the next delay code segment and defines it as the new current delay code. As shown in FIG. **34**, the location delay code module **2100** will then loop back through steps **2110-2114** and perform the aforementioned steps for the new current delay code.

If there are no additional delay code segments, the location delay code module **2100** moves to step **2118**, where it determines whether there are additional drivers associated with the user-selected location. For example, in one embodiment, the location delay code module **2100** is configured to initially generate delay code information for various drivers in the order that they appear in the driver menu **806**. Accordingly, in step **2118**, the location delay code module **2100** reviews the list of drivers in the driver menu **806** and determines whether there is at least one additional driver listed after the current driver. If the location delay code module **2100** determines there are additional drivers associated with the user-selected location, the location delay code module **2100** moves to step **2120**. In step **2120**, the location delay code module **2100** identifies and displays the next driver listed in the driver menu **806**. As in step **2104**, the location delay code module **2100** reviews the list of drivers in the driver menu **806**, identifies the next listed driver, and displays the driver in the delay code table **2152**. The location delay code module **2100** then defines the newly identified driver as the "current" driver. As shown in FIG. **34**, the location delay code module **2100** then loops back and performs steps **2106-2118** for the newly identified current driver.

In certain embodiments, the location delay code module **2100** may be further configured to the delay code segments shown in the delay code table **2152** according to any of the attributes displayed in the table **2152**. For example, in response to a user selecting the "total time" column heading, the location delay code module **2100** will group and display the identified delay code segments according to their total time (e.g., with the longest duration at the top of the table **2152**).

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Location Stop Exceptions Module

According to various embodiments, the location stop exception module **2200** is generally configured for providing stop statistics for a user-selected group of drivers on a user-selected date. In one embodiment, the location stop exception module **2200** is associated with a location stop exceptions tab **865** (shown in FIG. **37**). As such, the central server **120** is configured to run the location stop exception module **2200** in response to a user's selection of the location stop exceptions tab **865**.

FIG. **36** illustrates steps executed by the location stop exception module **2200** to provide stop statistics for a user-selected group of drivers according to one embodiment. Beginning at step **2202**, the location stop exception module **2200** displays a location stop exception view of the central server user interface **800**. For example, FIG. **37** shows a location stop exception view **800K** of the central server user interface **800** according to one embodiment. In the illustrated embodiment, the location stop exception view **800K** displays a stop statistics table **2252**, which indicates some or all of the following for each stop performed by each driver in the user-selected group of drivers: the driver name associated with the stop, the stop number (e.g., 1, 2, 3), the stop type (e.g., delivery or "DL," pickup or "PU," return to building or "RTB"), the stop complete time (e.g., the time at which the stop is completed, such as 22:11:00), the distance in miles from the previous stop—indicated as miles-to-stop or "MTS" (e.g., 18.5 miles), the total time elapsed while executing the stop—indicated as "Stop Time" (e.g., 10.00 minutes), the total time elapsed traveling from the previous stop and executing the current stop—indicated as "Total Time" (e.g., 84.00 minutes), the amount of time the driver was on the property of a shipping hub during the time-to-stop period—indicated as "On Property" (e.g., 23.63 minutes), the amount of non-travel time to stop occurring between the completion of the previous stop and the beginning of the current stop—indicated as "Non-Travel TTS" (e.g., 5.85 minutes), the amount of pure travel time occurring between the completion of the previous stop and the beginning of the current stop—indicated as "Pure Travel" (e.g., 45.37 minutes), the amount of lunch time occurring between the completion of the previous stop and beginning of the current stop—indicated as "Lunch" (e.g., 30.00 minutes), and the amount of driver-coded delay time occurring between the completion of the previous stop and the beginning of the current stop—indicated as "Coded Delay" (e.g., 1.50 minutes). Although the Lunch and Coded Delay columns are not visible in FIG. **37**, a scroll bar associated with stop statistics table **2252** allows a user to move the display in order to view those columns.

In addition, the location stop exception view **800K** includes a create report button **2254** configured to generate a printable stop statistics report (e.g., a .pdf file) showing the stop statistics table **2252**. The location stop exception view **800K** also includes the various menus and options **802-809** and map display **810** of the start-up view shown in FIG. **8**. Furthermore, the location stop exception view **800K** includes a stop filter menu **2256**, which comprises a plurality of adjustable filters. For example, in the illustrated embodiment of FIG. **37**, the stop filter menu **2256** includes an on property filter, non-travel time to stop filter, coded delay filter, stop time filter, total time filter, pure travel filter, miles to stop filter, return to building filter, and a lunch filter. As shown, many of the filters can be adjusted according to time or distance values that may be input by a user or selected from one of the drop down menus associated with each filter. As described in greater detail below, a user may adjust the settings of the various filters in the filter menu **2256** to control

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which of the stop statistics determined by the location stop exception module **2200** are displayed in the stop statistics table **2252**.

Next, at step **2204**, the location stop exception module **2200** identifies the first driver associated with the user-selected location. For example, in one embodiment, the location stop exception module **2200** reviews the list of drivers in the driver menu **806** and identifies the first listed driver. The location stop exception module **2200** then defines the identified driver as the “current” driver for performing steps **2206-2224**.

Next, at step **2206**, the location stop exception module **2200** retrieves data associated with the current driver from the loaded segmented data (e.g., the segmented data loaded by the central server **120** in step **912** of FIG. **9**) and loaded operational data (e.g., the operational data loaded by the central server **120** in step **906** of FIG. **9**), and stores the retrieved data (e.g., in the central server’s memory) for use in performing steps **2208-2220**. As the segmented data loaded by the central server **120** correspond to the user-selected date, the data retrieved in step **2206** will indicate stops performed by the current driver on the user-selected date.

Next, in step **2208**, the location stop exception module **2200** reviews the segmented data retrieved in step **2206** in chronological order and identifies the first indicated stop segment. The identified first stop segment is then defined as the current stop as the location stop exception module **2200** performs steps **2210-2220**. Next, in step **2210**, the location stop exception module **2200** identifies and retrieves—from the segmented data retrieved in step **2206**—the stop type and stop complete time for the current stop. In addition, the location stop exception module **2200** assigns a stop number to the current stop (e.g., by assigning “1” to the first identified stop and 2, 3, 4, etc. to successively identified stops).

Next, in step **2212**, the location stop exception module **2200** determines and displays the miles traveled to the current stop (e.g., “miles to stop” or “MTS”). In one embodiment, the location stop exception module **2200** determines the miles to stop by first reviewing the operational data retrieved in step **2206** and identifying telematics data that indicates the vehicle distance traveled (e.g., the vehicle’s odometer reading) and that was captured at the start of the current stop segment (e.g., when the vehicle’s engine was turned off, or when the vehicle **100** slowed to a stop immediately prior to the start of the stop segment). If the current stop segment is the first stop, the location stop exception module **2200** stores the retrieved distance data as the miles to stop for the first stop segment. If the current stop segment is not the first stop, the location stop exception module **2200** also identifies telematics data that indicates vehicle distance traveled and that was captured at the end of the previous stop segment (e.g., when the vehicle’s engine was started, or when the vehicle **100** accelerated from standstill). The location stop exception module **2200** then subtracts the vehicle distance traveled at the end of the previous stop from the vehicle distance traveled at the beginning of the current stop and stores the result as the miles to stop for the current stop. In other embodiments, the location stop exception module **2200** may determine the miles to stop for the current stop using the GPS-based techniques described herein.

Next, at step **2214**, the location stop exception module **2200** determines the stop time, on property time, non-travel time to stop, pure travel time, and total time for the current stop. In one embodiment, the location stop exception module **2200** determines the stop time by first identifying and retrieving the stop start time for the current stop from the loaded segmented data. The location stop exception module **2200**

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then calculates the difference between the stop complete time (retrieved in step **2210**) and the stop start time, and stores the result as the stop time for the current stop.

Next, according to one embodiment, the location stop exception module **2200** determines the on property time by first reviewing the retrieved segmented data for any on property segments occurring between the stop start time of the current stop and the stop finish time of any preceding stop. For example, where the current stop is the first stop, the location stop exception module **2200** will recognize the On Property segment occurring at the beginning of the driver’s day. If an On Property segment is identified, the location stop exception module **2200** then determines the start time and finish time for the identified On Property segment, and determines the On Property time—the duration of the On Property segment—by calculating the difference between the segment’s start time and finish time. Where multiple on property segments are identified between the stop start time of the current stop and the stop finish time of any preceding stop, this process is repeated and the location stop exception module **2200** sums the duration of the identified on property segments to determine the on property time.

Next, according to one embodiment, the location stop exception module **2200** determines the non-travel time to stop by reviewing the retrieved segmented data for any non-travel time to stop segments occurring between the stop start time of the current stop and the stop finish time of any preceding stop. If a non-travel time to stop segment is identified, the location stop exception module **2200** then determines the start time and finish time for the identified non-travel time to stop segment and determines the non-travel time to stop—the duration of the non-travel time to stop segment—by calculating the difference between the segment’s start time and finish time. Where multiple non-travel time to stop segments are identified between the stop start time of the current stop and the stop finish time of any preceding stop, this process is repeated and the location stop exception module **2200** sums the duration of the identified non-travel time to stop segments to determine the non-travel time to stop.

Next, according to one embodiment, the location exception module **2200** determines the pure travel time by reviewing the retrieved segmented data for any travel segments occurring between the stop start time of the current stop and the stop finish time of any preceding stop. If a travel segment is identified, the location exception module **2200** then determines the start time and finish time for the identified travel segment and determines the pure travel time—the duration of the travel segment—by calculating the difference between the segment’s start time and finish time. Where multiple travel segments are identified between the stop start time of the current stop and the stop finish time of any preceding stop, this process is repeated and the location exception module **2200** sums the duration of the identified travel segments to determine the pure travel time.

Next, according to one embodiment, the location exception module **2200** determines the total time for the current stop by first identifying the stop finish time of the preceding stop or, where the current stop is the first stop, the start time of the preceding on-property segment. Next, the location exception module **2200** determines the time to stop by calculating the difference between the stop start time identified earlier and the stop finish time of the preceding stop (or start time of the preceding on-property segment). Next, the location exception module **2200** calculates the total time for the current stop by summing the calculated stop time and time to stop.

Next, in step **2214**, the location stop exception module **2200** determines the lunch time and coded delay time for the

current stop. In one embodiment, the location exception module **2200** first reviews the retrieved segmented data for any lunch segments occurring between the start time of the current stop and the finish time of a preceding stop. If a lunch segment is identified, the location exception module **2200** then determines the start time and finish time for the identified lunch segment and determines the lunch time—the duration of the lunch segment—by calculating the difference between the segment's start time and finish time.

The location exception module **2200** next reviews the retrieved segmented data for any coded delay segments occurring between the start time of the current stop and the finish time of any preceding stop. If a coded delay segment is identified, the location exception module **2200** then determines the start time and finish time for the identified coded delay segment and determines the coded delay time—the duration of the coded delay segment—by calculating the difference between the segment's start time and finish time. Where multiple coded delay segments are identified between the start time of the current stop and the finish time of a preceding stop, this process is repeated and the location exception module **2200** sums the duration of the identified coded delay segments to determine the coded delay time.

Next, in step **2218**, the location exception module **2200** determines whether there are additional stops in the retrieved segmented data. In one embodiment, the location exception module **2200** executes step **2218** by reviewing the retrieved segmented data for stop segments occurring after the current stop. If there is an additional stop segment, the location exception module **2200** moves to step **2220** where it identifies the next stop segment (or return to building segment) and defines the newly identified stop as the new "current" stop. As shown in FIG. **36**, the location exception module **2200** will then loop back through steps **2210-2218** and perform the aforementioned steps for the new current stop segment.

If there are no additional stop segments, the location exception module **2200** moves to step **2222**, where it determines whether there are additional drivers associated with the user-selected location. For example, in one embodiment, the location exception module **2200** is configured to determine stop statistics for various drivers in the order that they appear in the driver menu **806**. Accordingly, in step **2222**, the location exception module **2200** reviews the list of drivers in the driver menu **806** and determines whether there is at least one additional driver listed after the current driver. If the location exception module **2200** determines there are additional drivers associated with the user-selected location, the location exception module **2200** moves to step **2224**. In step **2224**, the location exception module **2200** identifies the next driver listed in the driver menu **806**. The location exception module **2200** then defines the newly identified driver as the "current" driver. As shown in FIG. **36**, the location exception module **2200** then loops back and performs steps **2206-2222** for the newly identified current driver.

If the location exception module **2220** determines there are no additional drivers associated with the user-selected location, the location exception module **2200** moves to step **2226**. In step **2226**, the location exception module **2200** reviews the stop filter settings and displays those stop statistics determined in steps **2204-2224** that meet the stop filter settings. For example, where the "all" filter setting is selected, the location exception module **2200** will display stop statistics determined by the location exception module **2200** in the stop statistics table **2252**. However, if only the "stop time" filter is selected and is set to 15 minutes, the location exception module **2200** will show only the stop statistics associated with driver stops having a stop time of 15 minutes or greater.

Likewise, multiple filter options may be simultaneously checked such that a user can choose to view any combination of stop statistics. In other embodiments, the various filter settings may comprise percentages (e.g., a setting which filters stop statistics but those associated with the top 10% highest total time stops). Accordingly, in accordance with the stop filter menu **2256** settings, the location exception module **2200** is capable of comparing drivers according any of the statistical categories shown in FIG. **37**.

Location Safety Module

According to various embodiments, the central server **120** may further include a location safety module (not shown) configured for providing various safety information for a user-selected group of drivers (e.g., associated with a particular shipping hub) over a defined period of time (e.g., a user-selected day). In one embodiment, the location safety module is associated with a location safety tab **866** (shown in FIG. **42**). As such, the central server **120** is configured to run the location safety module in response to a user's selection of the location safety tab **866**.

FIG. **42** shows a location safety view **800P** of the central server user interface **800** generated by the location safety module according to one embodiment. As shown in FIG. **42**, the user may select a particular group of drivers (e.g., based on location or supervisor) or a group of drivers in the top 5 of drivers in a particular statistic category. The location safety module then reviews operational data for the user-selected group of drivers and determine and display—for each driver—the driver's group number, vehicle number, route number, device error codes, number of seat belt events (e.g., seat belt off while traveling, seat belt off while engine on), seat belt distance (e.g., distance traveled during seat belt events), number of recording in travel instances (e.g., use of the portable data acquisition device **110** while traveling), total idle time, bulk head door open events (e.g., instance where door is open or unlocked while vehicle is on or traveling), bulk head distance (e.g., distance traveled while door was open or unlocked), total vehicle backing events, and total backing distance. These values are then displayed in the location safety view **800P** as shown in FIG. **42**.

In addition, as shown in FIG. **42**, the location safety module determines—for the group of drivers—the total number and average number of seat belt off events, the total and average distance traveled during seat belt events, the total and average time recording in travel, the total and average time idling during delivery, the total and average number of bulk head open events, the total and average distance traveled during bulk head door events, the total and average number of backing events, the total and average backing distance, the total and average vehicle speed, the total and average number of harsh braking events (e.g., slowing more than 15 mph in two seconds), and the total and average amount of idle time.

Location Dispatch Profile Module

According to various embodiments, the location dispatch profile module **2300** is generally configured for providing dispatch profile statistics for a user-selected driver. In one embodiment, the location dispatch profile module **2300** is associated with a location dispatch profile tab **866** (shown in FIG. **39**). As such, the central server **120** is configured to run the location dispatch profile module **2300** in response to a user's selection of the location dispatch profile tab **866**.

FIG. **38** illustrates steps executed by the location dispatch profile module **2300** to provide dispatch profile statistics for a user-selected driver according to one embodiment. Beginning at step **2302**, the location dispatch profile module **2300** displays a location dispatch profile view of the central server user interface **800**. For example, FIG. **39** shows a location

dispatch profile view **800L** of the central server user interface **800** according to one embodiment. In the illustrated embodiment, the location dispatch profile view **800L** displays a dispatch statistics table **2352** and a delivery performance statistics table **2354**. The delivery performance statistics table **2354** indicates statistics for a driver's performance during one or more particular work shifts (e.g., a full work day, a morning work shift, an afternoon work shift, multiple work days, multiple morning or afternoon work shifts, or other periods of time during which one or more vehicle operators are scheduled to perform delivery-related activities), including number of trips made by the selected driver, the driver's total pickup and delivery hours, the number of delivery stops performed by the driver, the number of pickup stops performed by the driver, the total number of stops performed by the driver, the number of stops per hour performed by the driver, the driver's average stop time, the number of miles traveled by the driver, the miles traveled per stop by the driver, and the total weight of items picked up or delivered by the driver. Similarly, the dispatch statistics table **2352** indicates average values of the same driver performance statistics for one or more work shifts corresponding to unique dispatch ranges (e.g., ranges of total stops made by a driver on a single day). For example, the statistics shown in the "Dispatch Between 11-15 Stops" row indicate the driver's average performance in each category on days falling within the 11-15 stops dispatch range.

In addition, the location dispatch profile view **800L** includes a profile report menu **2356**, which provides a start date menu, end date menu, and driver menu configured to permit a user to select a particular date range and driver to generate dispatch profile data for. As noted earlier, the profile report menu **2356** may be used in lieu of the various menus and options **802-809** shown in FIG. 8. In addition, the location dispatch profile view **800L** includes a create report button **2354** configured to generate—in response to a user's selection—a printable dispatch profile report (e.g., a .pdf or .xls file) showing the dispatch statistics table **2352** and delivery performance statistics table **2354**. The location dispatch profile view **800L** also includes the map display **810** of the start-up view shown in FIG. 8.

Next, at step **2304**, the location dispatch profile module **2300** identifies the first date in the user-selected date range (e.g., the range of date specified by the user via the profile report menu **2356**) and defines the identified date as the "current" date. Next, at step **2306**, the location dispatch profile module **2300** retrieves data associated with the current date from the loaded segmented data (e.g., the segmented data loaded by the central server **120** in step **912** of FIG. 9) and loaded operational data (e.g., the operational data loaded by the central server **120** in step **906** of FIG. 9), and stores the retrieved data (e.g., in the central server's memory) for use in performing steps **2308-2320**. As the data loaded by the central server **120** corresponds to the user-selected driver (as specified in the profile report menu **2356**), the data retrieved in step **2306** will be indicative of the selected driver's activity on the current date.

Next, at step **2308**, the location dispatch profile module **2300** determines and displays various delivery performance statistics for the selected driver on the current date. For example, in one embodiment, the location dispatch profile module **2300** determines—based on the segmented data and operational data retrieved in step **2306**—the number of trips made by the selected driver, the driver's total pickup and delivery hours, the number of delivery stops performed by the driver, the number of pickup stops performed by the driver, the total number of stops performed by the driver, the number of stops per hour performed by the driver, the driver's average

stop time, the number of miles traveled by the driver, the miles traveled per stop by the driver, and the total weight of items picked up or delivered by the driver. These values may each be determined using various methods described herein, such as those described above in relation to the location performance module **1800**. As shown in FIG. 39, the location dispatch profile module **2300** next displays the determined values in the delivery performance statistics table **2354**.

Next, at step **2310**, the location dispatch profile module **2300** determines whether there are additional dates in the selected date range for which performance statistics have not been determined. If the location dispatch profile module **2300** determines there is at least one additional date in the selected date range, the location dispatch profile module **2300** moves to step **2312**. In step **2312**, the location dispatch profile module identifies the next date in the selected date range, and defines the newly identified date as the "current" date. As shown in FIG. 38, the location dispatch profile module **2300** then loops back through steps **2306-2310** to determine performance statistics for the selected driver on the new current date. If the location dispatch profile module **2300** determines there are no additional dates in the selected date range, the location dispatch profile module **2300** moves to step **2314**. At step **2314**, the location dispatch profile module **2300** identifies the first dispatch range in the dispatch statistics table **2352** (e.g., dispatch between 1-5 stops) and defines the identified dispatch range as the "current" dispatch range.

Next, at step **2316**, the location dispatch profile module **2300** determines and displays delivery performance statistics for the current dispatch range based on the statistics populated in the delivery performance statistics table **2354**. In one embodiment, the location dispatch profile module **2300** first identifies the dates in the selected date range on which the selected driver performed a total number of stops within the current dispatch range. The location dispatch profile module **2300** then counts the number of identified dates and averages each of the statistics in the delivery performance statistics table **2354** for each of the identified dates. The results for each statistical category are then displayed in the dispatch statistics table **2352** for the current dispatch range.

Next, at step **2318**, the location dispatch profile module **2300** determines whether there are additional dispatch ranges in the dispatch statistics table **2352** for which performance statistics have not been determined. If the location dispatch profile module **2300** determines there is at least one additional dispatch range, the location dispatch profile module **2300** moves to step **2320** where it identifies the next dispatch range in the dispatch statistics table **2352** and defines the identified dispatch range as the new "current" dispatch range. As shown in FIG. 38, the location dispatch profile module **2300** then loops back through steps **2316-2318** to determine delivery performance statistics for the new current dispatch range. If the location dispatch profile module **2300** determines there are not further dispatch ranges, the location dispatch profile module **2300** moves to step **2322**, where it monitors the location dispatch profile user interface view **800L** for a user's selection of modified profile report menu **2356** settings necessitating a new dispatch profile analysis. Various User Interface Tools

According to various embodiments, the data analyzed by the various modules described herein may be more particularly selected by a user by defining a geographical area on a map. For example, as shown in FIG. 43, a user may select a particular driver or group of drivers, a particular date, and navigate to a particular portion of the user interface's map display **810** showing stops made by the selected driver or drivers. The user may then draw a polygon on the map and

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request analysis of data associated with the stops falling within the polygon. In response, the module associated with the particular user interface view the user is current viewing will then refine its analysis and display information for only those stops or travel occurring within the user-defined geographic area.

In addition, according to various embodiments, the user may compare different types of information for a driver or common information for different drivers by opening multiple user interface windows. For example, in the illustrated embodiment of FIG. 44, the central server user interface **800** enables a user to run a particular type of analysis using a particular module for a particular driver or group of drivers, and subsequently run a different analysis (e.g., using a different driver or different analysis type) and view the resulting information simultaneously in multiple windows (**810A**, **810B**, **810C**). This permits the user to more effectively view various information generated by the fleet management system **5**.

Map Update Module

According to various embodiments, a map update module may also be stored on the central server **120**. In such embodiments, the map update module is generally configured for identifying paths traveled by a delivery vehicle that have not been plotted or otherwise stored in the central server's maps and for updating the central server's maps to include the identified paths (herein "unknown paths"). The unknown paths identified by the map update module may include, among other things, new roads in recently constructed residential neighborhoods, new highway off-ramps or bridges, and non-public roads or lanes in commercial areas. For example, as known methods for updating GPS-based maps are time consuming, the central server's maps (e.g., the above-described electronically navigable base map stored on the central server database) often do not include newly constructed roads before they are traveled by a delivery vehicle. Similarly, as GPS-based maps often do not include non-public road paths, delivery vehicles frequently travel along lanes in the parking lot of a large shopping center or roads surrounding a large distribution center that are not included in the central server's maps.

According to various embodiments, the map update module is configured to identify unknown paths and update the central server's maps based on telematics data captured from the delivery vehicle **100** by the telematics device **102**. As noted earlier herein, in various embodiments, the telematics device **102** is configured to capture telematics data that includes data indicating the vehicle's location as the vehicle **100** travels along a given path (e.g., GPS coordinates captured by a location sensing device). As a result, the travel path of the vehicle **100** at any point during the course of an operational day can be determined and plotted on a map based on the captured telematics data (e.g., as discussed earlier in relation to step **908** in FIG. 9). Accordingly, the map update module is configured to identify telematics data captured while the vehicle **100** is (or was) traveling along an unknown path and plot the unknown path based on the identified telematics data.

The telematics data corresponding to an unknown path can generally be identified by determining the vehicle's distance from the nearest known road at the time a telematics data record is captured by the telematics device **102**. For example, FIG. 45 illustrates a road **3050** along which the vehicle **100** may travel. As shown in FIG. 46, the road **3050** may be represented as a known road in the central server's maps by a string of road data points **3052**, each of which is associated with data indicating its respective location (e.g., GPS-compatible latitude and longitude data). According to various

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embodiments, the road data points **3052** may be positioned along the path of the road **3050** and generally spaced a distance **D1** apart from one another.

FIG. 47 illustrates a plurality of location data points **3054** captured as the vehicle **100** traveled along the road **3050**. In the illustrated embodiment of FIG. 47, the distance between a particular location data point **3054** and the nearest road data point **3052** is indicated as the distance **D2**. Although the distance between the location data points **3054** themselves may vary depending on the speed of the vehicle and frequency of the telematics data capture, each location data point **3054** is necessarily proximate at least one of the road data points **3052**. Indeed, as long as the vehicle **100** is traveling along the known road **3050**, the distance **D2** between any given location data point **3054** and the nearest road data point **3052** will not exceed the distance **D1** (i.e., the distance between adjacent road data points **3052**). Accordingly, in various embodiments, location data points **3054** having a distance **D2** from the nearest road data point **3052** that is greater than the distance **D1** will correspond to travel along an unknown path.

For example, FIG. 48 illustrates an unknown road **3058** that extends through a new residential neighborhood constructed adjacent the known road **3050**. FIG. 49 shows a plurality of location data points **3054** captured as the vehicle **100** traveled along the known road **3050**, turned from the known road **3050** onto the unknown road **3058**, and then returned to the known road **3050**. As shown in FIG. 49, the location data points **3054** captured along the unknown road **3058** have a distance **D2** from their nearest road data point **3052** that is greater than the distance **D1**. As such, the location data points **3054** corresponding to the unknown road **3058** can be identified and connected to form a new path **3056** representing the unknown road **3058**. The location data points **3054** comprising the new path **3056** can then be stored in the central server's maps in order to update the maps to reflect the newly constructed road **3058**. As will be appreciated from the description herein, the process can be used to identify and store unknown public roads, private roads, parking lot lanes, or other unknown paths traveled by the vehicle **100**.

According to various embodiments, the central server **120** is configured to run the map update module in response to a user request (e.g., a request received via the graphical user interface **800**). FIG. 51 illustrates steps executed by the map update module to update the central servers' maps according to one embodiment. Beginning at step **3002**, the map update module identifies the first telematics data record in the operational data set loaded by the central server **120** (e.g., in step **906** of FIG. 9) and defines this first data record as the "current data record." Next, at step **3004**, the map update module determines the vehicle's **100** distance from the nearest known road at the time of the current data record's capture. In one embodiment, the map update module executes step **3004** by determining the location of the vehicle at the time the current data record was captured (e.g., based on a location data point in the current data record), identifies the nearest point on a known road in relation to the vehicle's location (e.g., based on the location data associated with the road data points in the central server's maps), and calculates the distance between the vehicle's location and the nearest road data point.

Next, at step **3006**, the map update module determines whether the distance calculated in step **3004** exceeds a predefined threshold distance (e.g., the average distance **D1** between road data points in the central server's maps). If the distance calculated in step **3004** does not exceed the predefined threshold, the map update module moves to step **3010**. If the distance calculated in step **3004** does exceed the predefined threshold, the map update module moves to step

3008, where it flags the current data record as a “new path point” (e.g., by associating the current data record with meta-data indicating it is a new path point).

Next, at step **3010**, the map update module determines whether there are additional telematics data records in the operational data set loaded by the central server **120**. If there are additional telematics data records, the map update module moves to step **3012**, where it identifies the next telematics data record, stores it as the current data record, and repeats steps **3004-3010**. If there are no additional telematics data records, the map update module moves to step **3014**, where it identifies strings of consecutive new path points (e.g., the telematics data records flagged as such) and stores the string of new path points as a new known path in the central server’s maps.

According to various embodiments, the map update module may be further configured to permit a user to name, format, or otherwise modify new known paths identified by the map update module. For example, in certain embodiments, the map update module may be configured to display one or more new known paths on a current map (e.g., in the user interface’s map display **810**) and enable a user to designate a particular new known path as a private road, public road, parking lot lane, or other path type (e.g., by visually comparing an identified new known path to its surroundings on the map). The map update module may then be configured to store the new known path as the designated path type in the central server’s maps.

In other embodiments, the map update module may be configured to automatically identify new known paths as being a public road, private road, parking lot lane, or other path type. For example, in certain embodiments, the map update module may be configured to compare the location of a new known path (e.g., based on GPS data associated with identified new path points) with a plurality of predefined geo-fenced areas. In such an embodiment, the map update module may be configured to designate new known paths identified as being located within a geo-fenced area associated with a shopping center as a private commercial lane (e.g., a parking lot lane or delivery lane). Likewise, the map update module may be configured to designate new known paths identified as being located within a residential neighborhood as a new neighborhood road, which may be public or private depending on the neighborhood. Furthermore, the map update module may be configured to designate new known paths identified as being located within a public area (e.g., adjacent a highway) as being a public road. In addition, the map update module may be configured to designate any new known path as a public road based on a default setting (e.g., such that any new known path is automatically designated a public road unless it is determined to be within a private geofenced area).

In other embodiments, steps **3004-3008** of FIG. **51** may be accomplished by the telematics device **102**. For example, as noted earlier herein, the telematics device **102** may be configured to recognize vehicle events characterized by data generated by GPS-sensors or other location sensing devices, such as a vehicle traveling onto a known road (e.g., a road recognized by a GPS device) and a vehicle traveling off of a known road (e.g., exceeding a certain predefined distance from a known road). As such, the telematics device **102** may be configured to automatically flag telematics data records as new path points at the time they are captured. Likewise, the map update module may be configured to identify telematics data records flagged by the telematics device **102** and execute steps **3002** and **3010-3014** accordingly.

Off-Course Travel Module

According to various embodiments, an off-course travel module may also be stored on the central server **120**. In such embodiments, the off-course travel module is generally configured for comparing the travel path of one or more vehicles with at least one planned travel path in order to identify portions of the vehicle travel path that are off-course from the planned travel path. After identifying off-course portions of a vehicle’s travel path, the off-course travel module may be further configured to generate a graphical display indicating the off-course portions of the vehicle’s travel path on a geographical map. In addition, the off-course travel module may be configured to determine one or more statistics relating to the off-course portion of the vehicle’s travel path. In various embodiments, the off-course travel module may be configured to accomplish these tasks using techniques analogous to those described above in relation to the map update module.

According to various embodiments, the central server **120** is configured to run the off-course travel module in response to a user request (e.g., a request received via the graphical user interface **800**). As discussed earlier herein, user input received via the user interface **800** may specify one or more particular drivers, one or more particular vehicles, one or more particular time periods, and/or a particular geographical area. Accordingly, the off-course travel module may be configured to first retrieve planning data indicating a predefined planned route for the user-selected driver or vehicle (e.g., a planned delivery route for the user-specified driver during the user-specified time period). This planning data may be retrieved, for example, from the aforementioned Planning Data Set stored on the central server database. In various embodiments, the planning data defining the planned route may comprise a string of road data points, each of which is associated with data indicating its respective location (e.g., GPS-compatible latitude and longitude data). According to various embodiments, the road data points may be positioned along the vehicle’s planned path and generally spaced a fixed distance apart from one another.

Next, the off-course travel module compares the user-selected vehicle’s travel path to the vehicle’s planned route. As noted earlier herein, in various embodiments, the telematics device **102** is configured to capture telematics data that includes data indicating the vehicle’s location as the vehicle **100** travels along a given path (e.g., GPS coordinates captured by a location sensing device). As a result, the travel path of the vehicle **100** at any point during the course of an operational day can be determined and plotted on a map based on the captured telematics data (e.g., as discussed earlier in relation to step **908** in FIG. **9**). Accordingly, off-course portions of the vehicle’s travel path can be identified by determining the vehicle’s distance from the nearest point on the planned route at the time a particular telematics data record is captured by the vehicle’s telematics device **102** and identifying those telematics data records captured from an off-course location. By identifying strings of off-course telematics data records, the off-course travel module can identify off-course portions of the vehicle’s travel path.

For example, in one embodiment, the off-course travel module identifies the first telematics data record in the operational data set loaded by the central server **120** (e.g., in step **906** of FIG. **9**) and defines this first data record as the “current data record.” Next, the off-course travel module determines the vehicle’s **100** distance from the nearest point on the planned route at the time of the current data record’s capture. In one embodiment, the off-course travel module accomplishes this by determining the location of the vehicle at the time the current data record was captured (e.g., based on a

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location data point in the current data record), identifying the nearest point on the planned route in relation to the vehicle's location (e.g., based on the location data associated with the road data points in the central server's maps), and calculating the distance from the vehicle's location to the nearest point on the planned route.

Next, the off-course travel module determines whether the distance calculated exceeds a predefined threshold distance (e.g., 50 feet from the nearest point on the planned route). If the distance calculated exceeds the predefined threshold, the off-course travel module flags the current data record as an "off-course path point" (e.g., by associating the current data record with metadata indicating it is an off-course path point). If the distance calculated does not exceed the predefined threshold, the off-course travel module does not mark the current data record as an off-course path point.

Next, the off-course travel module determines whether there are additional telematics data records in the operational data set loaded by the central server 120. If there are additional telematics data records, the off-course travel module identifies the next telematics data record, stores it as the current data record, and repeats the aforementioned steps to determine whether the current data record represents an off-course path point. If there are no additional telematics data records, the off-course travel module identifies strings of consecutive off-course path points (e.g., the telematics data records flagged as such) and stores the string of off-course path points as an off-course portion of the vehicle's travel path. In various embodiments, the above-described process or identifying off-course portions of a vehicle travel path may be repeated to identifying off-course portions of travel paths associated with additional vehicles or drivers as requested by a user.

In other embodiments, aforementioned steps performed by the off-course travel module may be accomplished by the telematics device 102. For example, as noted earlier herein, the telematics device 102 may be configured to recognize vehicle events characterized by data generated by GPS-sensors or other location sensing devices, such as a vehicle traveling onto a planned path (e.g., a planned path associated with a driver operating the vehicle) and a vehicle traveling off of a planned path (e.g., exceeding a certain predefined distance from a planned path). As such, the telematics device 102 may be configured to automatically flag telematics data records as off-course path points at the time they are captured. Likewise, the off-course travel module may be configured to identify telematics data records flagged by the telematics device 102 and execute the aforementioned steps accordingly.

After identifying one or more off-course portions of a particular vehicle's travel path, the off-course travel module may be further configured to generate a graphical display indicating the off-course portions of the vehicle's travel path on a geographical map. For example, in one embodiment, the off-course travel module may be configured to highlight off-course portions of one or more vehicle paths shown in the user interface's map display 810 (e.g., by showing the off-course portions in a different color from the on-course portions of the vehicle travel path). In certain embodiments, the vehicle's travel path may be shown in combination with the planned route (e.g., by overlaying the actual travel path over the planned route).

In addition, the off-course travel module may be configured to determine one or more statistics relating to the off-course portion of the vehicle's travel path. For example, in one embodiment, the off-course travel module may be configured for determining—based on telematics data and/or service data associated with the off-course portion of the

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vehicle path—the duration of the off-course portion of the vehicle travel path, the distance traveled during the off-course portion of the vehicle travel path, any vehicle activity segments occurring during the off-course portions of the vehicle travel path (e.g., lunch segments, travel delay segments, non-travel time to stop segments, etc.). In accordance with user preferences, these statistics may be determined and displayed in relation to individual off-course portions of a vehicle travel path or cumulatively for all off-course vehicle travel path portions for a particular vehicle or driver during a certain period of time.

Travel Delay Forecasting Module

According to various embodiments, a travel delay forecasting module may also be stored on the central server 120. In such embodiments, the travel delay forecasting module is generally configured for forecasting travel delays for a vehicle in a user-selected geographic area based on historical telematics data.

According to various embodiments, the central server 120 is configured to run the travel delay forecasting module in response to a user request (e.g., a request received via the graphical user interface 800). In particular, the user request may comprise a request for a travel delay forecast for a particular geographical area during a particular geographical time. For example, in one embodiment, the user may select one or more geographical areas using the map drawing tool shown in FIG. 43 and described above (e.g., by drawing a polygon in the map display area of the user interface), or using other methods described herein (e.g., selecting a predefined work area, delivery route, or other geographical area). In addition, the user may optionally select a particular time period on which the travel delay forecast should be based. For example, the user may specify—via one or more user interface menus or input fields—a range of recent dates to forecast travel delays based on telematics data captured during these dates. This may be useful, for example, where recent construction has changed traffic characteristics in the selected area such that telematics data captured outside of a certain date range would be not be reflective of present conditions. In addition, or alternatively, the user may specify a time of day to forecast travel delays based on telematics data captured during a particular time of day. For example, the user may specify—via one or more user interface menus or input fields—a particular time of day, such as morning (e.g., 6 AM-10 AM), mid-day (e.g., 10 AM-2 PM), afternoon (e.g., 2 PM-5 PM), rush-hour (e.g., 5 PM-7 PM), evening (e.g., 7 PM-12 AM), or night (e.g., 12 AM-6 AM). In various embodiments, the travel delay forecasting module may have one or more default values associated with these criteria (e.g., all drivers and vehicles, operating hours from 8 AM-6 PM, and data captured during the past year).

Accordingly, the travel delay forecasting module may be configured to first retrieve telematics data relating to the user-specified criteria (e.g., telematics data captured within the user-specified geographic area and within the user-specified time period if one has been defined). For example, in one embodiment, the travel delay forecasting module may be configured to retrieve telematics data and segmented data associated with the user-specified criteria from the central server database using the methods described herein. In various embodiments, the travel delay forecasting module may be configured to retrieve all data associated with the user-specified criteria (i.e., all stored telematics data for any vehicle that was captured within the user-specified geographic area and during the user-specified time period) or a sample set of data associated with the user-specified criteria (e.g., stored data for 100 random vehicles that was captured within the user-specified

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fied geographic area and during the user-specified time period). In further embodiments, the travel delay forecasting module may be configured to retrieve data for specific drivers or vehicles, as well as data for all drivers and/or vehicles associated with a particular shipping hub or distribution center.

Next, the travel delay forecasting module identifies all travel delay segments in the retrieved segmented data. As discussed herein, travel delay segments identified by the data segmenting module 1000 each represent a period of engine idle time occurring during a Travel segment (e.g., when a vehicle is stopped at an intersection or stopped in heavy traffic). Next, the travel delay forecasting module sums the duration of all identified travel delay segments to determine the total amount of travel delay time indicated by the retrieved data.

Next, the travel delay forecasting module determines the total amount of miles traveled by all vehicles represented in the retrieved data. In other words, the total amount of miles traveled by vehicles associated with the retrieved data during the user-specified time period and within the user-specified geographic area. For example, if the data retrieved by the travel delay forecasting module corresponds to only one vehicle, the travel delay module will determine the total distance traveled by that vehicle within the user-specified geographic area and during the user-specified time period. Likewise, if the data retrieved by the travel delay forecasting module corresponds to multiple vehicles, the travel delay module will determine the total distance traveled by all of those vehicles within the user-specified geographic area and during the user-specified time period. This total distance traveled value may be determined based on the retrieved telematics data (e.g., based on odometer readings, GPS position). In other embodiments, the total distance traveled may be determined based on driver-reported values retrieved by the travel delay forecasting module.

Next, the travel delay forecasting module determines a value indicative of the average amount of travel delay time per unit of distance for the user-specified geographic area and user-specified time period. For example, in one embodiment, the travel delay forecasting module is configured to determine the average travel delays per mile (e.g., travel delay seconds per mile). In such embodiments, the travel delay forecasting module determines this value by dividing the calculated total amount of travel delay time by the calculated total distance traveled and storing this value as the travel delays per mile. In other embodiments, the travel delay forecasting module determines a miles per travel delay time value by dividing the calculated total distance traveled by the calculated total amount of travel delay time (e.g., miles traveled per travel delay minute).

In further embodiments, the travel delay forecasting module may also be configured for estimating a total amount of planned idle time for a vehicle within a particular geographic area. In such embodiments, the travel delay forecasting module first identifies all start of trip segments and end of trip segments in the retrieved segmented data. As discussed herein, start of trip segments identified by the data segmenting module 1000 each represent a period of engine idle time beginning with a vehicle's engine being turned on and idling, and ending when the vehicle next begins to move and the engine stops idling. Similarly, end of trip segments identified by the data segmenting module 1000 each represent a period of engine idle time beginning when a vehicle stops and idles, and ending when the vehicle's engine is next turned off. Next, the travel delay forecasting module determines the average duration of all identified start of trip segments and the average

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duration of all identified end of trip segments. These values are then stored as the start of trip event plan time and end of trip event plan time, respectively.

To determine the total planned idle time for a given vehicle within the user-selected geographic area, the travel delay forecasting module sets the number of planned stops received via user input as both the number of planned start of trip events and the number of planned end of trip events. Finally, based on the earlier calculated travel delays per mile value for the user-selected geographic area and the aforementioned parameters, the travel delay forecasting module determines the total planned idle time for the vehicle by performing the following calculation:

SE=Number of Planned Start of Trip Events

SEPT=Start of Trip Event Plan Time

EE=Number of Planned End of Trip Events

EEPT=End of Trip Event Plan Time

TDPM=Travel Delays Per Mile

MT=Miles Traveled

$$\text{Total Planned Idle Time} = (\text{SE} \times \text{SEPT}) + (\text{EE} \times \text{EEPT}) + (\text{TDPM} \times \text{MT})$$

According to various embodiments, the travel delay forecasting module may also be configured for generating a graphical representation of these calculated values and for providing an interactive user interface configured to enable a user to modify the various parameters noted above and perform multiple calculations.

CONCLUSION

As should be appreciated, the embodiments may be implemented in various ways, including as methods, apparatus, systems, or computer program products. Accordingly, the embodiments may take the form of an entirely hardware embodiment or an embodiment in which a processor is programmed to perform certain steps. Furthermore, the various implementations may take the form of a computer program product on a computer-readable storage medium having computer-readable program instructions embodied in the storage medium. Any suitable computer-readable storage medium may be utilized including hard disks, CD-ROMs, optical storage devices, or magnetic storage devices.

The embodiments are described below with reference to block diagrams and flowchart illustrations of methods, apparatus, systems, and computer program products. It should be understood that each block of the block diagrams and flowchart illustrations, respectively, may be implemented in part by computer program instructions, e.g., as logical steps or operations executing on a processor in a computing system. These computer program instructions may be loaded onto a computer, such as a special purpose computer or other programmable data processing apparatus to produce a specifically-configured machine, such that the instructions which execute on the computer or other programmable data processing apparatus implement the functions specified in the flowchart block or blocks.

These computer program instructions may also be stored in a computer-readable memory that can direct a computer or other programmable data processing apparatus to function in a particular manner, such that the instructions stored in the computer-readable memory produce an article of manufacture including computer-readable instructions for implementing the functionality specified in the flowchart block or blocks. The computer program instructions may also be loaded onto a computer or other programmable data processing apparatus to cause a series of operational steps to be

performed on the computer or other programmable apparatus to produce a computer-implemented process such that the instructions that execute on the computer or other programmable apparatus provide operations for implementing the functions specified in the flowchart block or blocks.

Accordingly, blocks of the block diagrams and flowchart illustrations support various combinations for performing the specified functions, combinations of operations for performing the specified functions and program instructions for performing the specified functions. It should also be understood that each block of the block diagrams and flowchart illustrations, and combinations of blocks in the block diagrams and flowchart illustrations, can be implemented by special purpose hardware-based computer systems that perform the specified functions or operations, or combinations of special purpose hardware and computer instructions.

Many modifications and other embodiments of the inventions set forth herein will come to mind to one skilled in the art to which these embodiments of the invention pertain having the benefit of the teachings presented in the foregoing descriptions and the associated drawings. Therefore, it is to be understood that the embodiments of the invention are not to be limited to the specific embodiments disclosed and that modifications and other embodiments are intended to be included within the scope of the appended claims. Although specific terms are employed herein, they are used in a generic and descriptive sense only and not for purposes of limitation. That which is claimed:

1. A fleet management computer system for assessing vehicle backing, said fleet management computer system comprising:

one or more memory storage areas; and
one or more processors in communication with said one or more memory storage areas;

wherein said one or more processors are, collectively, configured to:

receive operational data comprising vehicle telematics data, said vehicle telematics data being indicative of one or more vehicle dynamics for one or more vehicles operated by one or more vehicle operators during one or more time periods;

identify, for each of said vehicles, one or more vehicle backing events occurring during said one or more time periods based on said operational data, said one or more vehicle backing events each comprising a period of time during which a respective vehicle is moving in a reverse direction;

determine, for each of said identified backing events, one or more backing characteristics of said backing event based on said operational data, said one or more backing characteristics comprising data characterizing one or more aspects of a respective backing event; and

generate a graphical display providing backing information indicative of said one or more backing characteristics for said identified backing events, said backing information comprising data characterizing the one or more aspects of said vehicle backing events.

2. The fleet management computer system of claim 1, wherein said backing information comprises a total number of backing events attributable to said one or more vehicles and said one or more vehicle operators during said one or more time periods.

3. The fleet management computer system of claim 1, wherein said backing information comprises an average number of backing events per vehicle operator during said one or more time periods.

4. The fleet management computer system of claim 1, wherein said one or more backing characteristics comprise the distance traveled by a respective vehicle during an identified backing event.

5. The fleet management computer system of claim 4, wherein said backing information comprises a total backing distance for said backing events attributable to said one or more vehicles and said one or more vehicle operators during said one or more time periods.

6. The fleet management computer system of claim 4, wherein said backing information comprises an average backing distance for said backing events attributable to said one or more vehicles and said one or more vehicle operators during said one or more time periods.

7. The fleet management computer system of claim 1, wherein said one or more backing characteristics comprise the duration of an identified backing event.

8. The fleet management computer system of claim 6, wherein said backing information comprises a total duration of said backing events attributable to said one or more vehicles and said one or more vehicle operators during said one or more time periods.

9. The fleet management computer system of claim 1, wherein said processors are further configured to identify, for each of said identified backing events, an associated vehicle operator, wherein said one or more backing characteristics are attributable to said vehicle operator.

10. The fleet management computer system of claim 9, wherein said backing information comprises a total number of backing events attributable to each identified vehicle operator.

11. The fleet management computer system of claim 9, wherein said backing information comprises a total backing distance for backing events attributable to each identified vehicle operator.

12. The fleet management computer system of claim 9, wherein said processors are further configured for sorting said vehicle operators based on one or more values provided in said backing information.

13. The fleet management computer system of claim 12, wherein said values provided in said backing information comprise a number of vehicle stops attributable to a respective vehicle operator.

14. The fleet management computer system of claim 1, wherein said one or more backing characteristics comprise the location of a respective backing event; and

wherein said graphical display includes a geographical map indicating the location of one or more of said identified backing events.

15. The fleet management computer system of claim 1, wherein said processors are configured to receive said operational data by:

receiving user input requesting retrieval of operational data relating to one or more user parameters;

retrieving certain operational data relating to said parameters from one or more data storage areas; and

loading said certain operational data to said one or more memory storage areas.

16. The fleet management computer system of claim 15, wherein said one or more user parameters comprise one or more parameters selected from the group consisting of:

one or more time periods;

one or more specific vehicle operators;

one or more specific vehicles; and

one or more locations.

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17. A non-transitory computer readable storage medium comprising computer executable instructions for:

receiving operational data comprising vehicle telematics data, said vehicle telematics data being indicative of one or more vehicle dynamics for one or more vehicles operated by one or more vehicle operators during one or more time periods;

identifying, for each of said vehicles, one or more vehicle backing events occurring during said one or more time periods based on said operational data, said one or more vehicle backing events each comprising a period of time during which a respective vehicle is moving in a reverse direction;

determining, for each of said identified backing events, one or more backing characteristics of said backing event based on said operational data, said one or more backing characteristics comprising data characterizing one or more aspects of a respective backing event; and

generating a graphical display providing backing information indicative of said one or more backing characteristics for said identified backing events, said backing information comprising data characterizing the one or more aspects of said vehicle backing events.

18. The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 17, wherein said backing information comprises a total number of backing events attributable to said one or more vehicles and said one or more vehicle operators during said one or more time periods.

19. The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 17, wherein said backing information comprises an average number of backing events per vehicle operator during said one or more time periods.

20. The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 17, wherein said one or more backing characteristics comprise the distance traveled by a respective vehicle during an identified backing event.

21. The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 20, wherein said backing information comprises a total backing distance for said backing events attributable to said one or more vehicles and said one or more vehicle operators during said one or more time periods.

22. The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 20, wherein said backing information comprises a total duration of said backing events attributable to said one or more vehicles and said one or more vehicle operators during said one or more time periods.

23. The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 17, further comprising executable instructions for identifying, for each of said identified backing events, an associated vehicle operator, wherein said one or more backing characteristics are attributable to said vehicle operator.

24. The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 17, wherein said one or more backing characteristics comprise the location of a respective backing event; and wherein said graphical display includes a geographical map indicating the location of one or more of said identified backing events.

25. The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 17, further comprising executable instructions for receiving said operational data by:

receiving user input requesting retrieval of operational data relating to one or more user parameters;

retrieving certain operational data relating to said parameters from one or more data storage areas; and

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loading said certain operational data to one or more memory storage areas.

26. A method for assessing vehicle backing, said method comprising steps for:

receiving operational data comprising vehicle telematics data, said vehicle telematics data being indicative of one or more vehicle dynamics for one or more vehicles operated by one or more vehicle operators during one or more time periods;

identifying, for each of said vehicles, one or more vehicle backing events occurring during said one or more time periods based on said operational data, said one or more vehicle backing events each comprising a period of time during which a respective vehicle is moving in a reverse direction;

determining, for each of said identified backing events, one or more backing characteristics of said backing event based on said operational data, said one or more backing characteristics comprising data characterizing one or more aspects of a respective backing event; and

generating a graphical display providing backing information indicative of said one or more backing characteristics for said identified backing events, said backing information comprising data characterizing the one or more aspects of said vehicle backing events.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein said backing information comprises a total number of backing events attributable to said one or more vehicles and said one or more vehicle operators during said one or more time periods.

28. The method of claim 26, wherein said backing information comprises an average number of backing events per vehicle operator during said one or more time periods.

29. The method of claim 26, wherein said one or more backing characteristics comprise the distance traveled by a respective vehicle during an identified backing event.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein said backing information comprises a total backing distance for said backing events attributable to said one or more vehicles and said one or more vehicle operators during said one or more time periods.

31. The method of claim 29, wherein said backing information comprises a total duration of said backing events attributable to said one or more vehicles and said one or more vehicle operators during said one or more time periods.

32. The method of claim 26, further comprising steps for identifying, for each of said identified backing events, an associated vehicle operator, wherein said one or more backing characteristics are attributable to said vehicle operator.

33. The method of claim 26, wherein said one or more backing characteristics comprise the location of a respective backing event; and

wherein said graphical display includes a geographical map indicating the location of one or more of said identified backing events.

34. The method of claim 26, wherein said step of receiving operational data comprises steps for:

receiving user input requesting retrieval of operational data relating to one or more user parameters;

retrieving certain operational data relating to said parameters from one or more data storage areas; and

loading said certain operational data to one or more memory storage areas.

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